



**AMIDST VIOLENCE,
GERMANY PUSHES
PEACE IN UKRAINE**

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**S&P 500 DANCES
ACROSS 1,900, BUT
ENDS DAY SHORT**

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Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Wednesday, May 14, 2014



**At Press Time:
151 Dead, Many Trapped In Turkish Coal Mine**

Miners help a rescued friend hours after an explosion and fire at a coal mine killed at least 150 miners and left hundreds of workers trapped underground, in Soma, in western Turkey, late Tuesday, May 13, 2014, a Turkish official said. Twenty people were rescued from the mine but one later died in the hospital, Soma administrator Mehmet Bahattin Atci told reporters. The town is 155 miles south of Istanbul. The death toll was expected to rise.

(AP Photo)

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — An explosion and a fire Tuesday killed at least 151 workers at a coal mine in western Turkey and hundreds more remained trapped underground, government officials said as Turkey launched a massive rescue operation.

Energy Minister Taner Yildiz said 787 people were inside the coal mine in Soma at the time of the accident and 363 of them had been rescued so far. He said 76 miners were injured, including one who was in serious condition. The mine is located some 250 kilometers

(155.35 miles) from Istanbul. Authorities say the disaster followed an explosion and fire caused by a power distribution unit. Yildiz said most of the deaths were the result of carbon monoxide poisoning. "Time is working against us,"

Yildiz said earlier. He said some 400 rescuers were involved in the operation. Yildiz said some of the workers were 420 meters (460 yards) deep inside the mine. Television footage showed people cheering and applauding as some trapped

workers emerged out of the mine, helped by rescuers, their faces and hard-hats covered in soot. One wiped away tears on his jacket, another smiled, waved and flashed a "thumbs up" sign at onlookers.

Continued on Page 10

Amid continued chaos: Germany pushes peace in Ukraine

**NATALIYA VASILYEVA
JIM HEINTZ**

Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — An insurgent ambush killed six soldiers Tuesday in eastern Ukraine as Germany moved to jumpstart a possible plan toward peace that includes launching a dialogue on decentralizing the government in Kiev. Ukraine's leadership appeared cool to the plan and U.S. officials view its prospects for success

for its plan but said Ukraine has drawn up its own "road map" for ending the crisis and noted the people of his country should settle the issue themselves.

A settlement has been elusive, as insurgents in eastern Ukraine seize police stations and government buildings. Two regions in the east have declared themselves independent after a weekend referendum, and one of them, Donetsk, has appealed for

following months of large protests. Moscow calls it a nationalist junta encouraged by Washington.

Western countries have slapped an array of sanctions on Russia both for its alleged role in the east and for its annexation of Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula that voted to split from Ukraine in March. With the tensions high between Washington and Moscow, Steinmeier may be a more effective inter-



German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, third from left, and Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, right, attend a meeting in Kiev, Ukraine, Tuesday, May 13, 2014. Steinmeier flew to Ukraine Tuesday to help start talks between the Ukrainian government and its foes following the declaration of independence by two eastern region.

(AP Photo/Andrew Kravchenko)

skeptically. But some analysts say Russian President Vladimir Putin is more likely to accept a deal that doesn't come from Washington.

German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier is in Ukraine to try to broker a quick launch of talks between the central government and pro-Russia separatists. That would be a first step in implementing a "road map" drawn up by the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe aimed at settling the crisis.

The OSCE is a trans-Atlantic security and rights group that includes Russia and the U.S., whose sparring over each other's role in Ukraine sometimes overshadows events on the ground.

Speaking in Brussels, acting Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk thanked the OSCE

annexation by Russia.

Ukrainian forces have mounted an offensive to try to put down the armed insurgents. On Tuesday, the Defense Ministry said six soldiers were killed by insurgents who ambushed a convoy. The separatist leader in Luhansk, one of the regions that declared independence, was shot and wounded, insurgents said.

The U.S. and Western European countries accuse Russia of fomenting the unrest, with the goal of destabilizing the country or seeking a pretext to invade and seize eastern regions, which are largely Russian-speaking and the heartland of Ukrainian industry. Russia in turn denounces Ukraine's caretaker government, which took power after pro-Russia president Viktor Yanukovich was ousted in February

locutor. A senior official in the U.S. administration told The Associated Press that the U.S. had been coordinating with Germany and encouraging its leadership for a diplomatic path in Ukraine. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because of not being authorized to discuss the Ukraine crisis in public.

Putin "is far more likely to bow to pressure if it's going to come from (German Chancellor) Angela Merkel than Barack Obama," said Michael Geary of the Institute for European Global Studies at Switzerland's University of Basel.

The OSCE plan, by encouraging discussion of decentralizing the government, suggests that the West sees Russia as having the upper hand. Moscow has pushed for the "federalization" of Ukraine — giving the regions more powers. □

A look at the proposed Peace Plan for Ukraine

The Associated Press

A potential peace deal for Ukraine has emerged after months of political chaos, deadly violence, economic volatility and the worst crisis between Russia and the West in a generation. Here's a look at the plan, crafted by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, a security and rights monitoring group made up of European countries including Russia.

WHAT'S IN IT?

The plan calls for all sides to refrain from violence, intimidation and provocations, with OSCE teams helping to investigate and prosecute violations. Protesters occupying buildings would leave and surrender their weapons, and receive amnesty in return. No more referendums would be allowed, after a hastily arranged vote in Crimea led to the region joining Russia, and after insurgents in two other eastern provinces organized ballots last weekend. Central to the plan is a series of round-table talks and town hall meetings involving Ukrainian authorities and those who "feel alienated from government" — such as the insurgents in eastern Ukraine. The talks would aim to decentralize Ukraine's government and maintain the status of the Russian language, which is commonly spoken in Ukraine, especially in the areas where opposition to the Kiev government runs highest. Nationwide presidential elections on May 25 would go ahead as planned, possibly with added questions related to the issues under discussion.

WHO SUPPORTS IT?

The plan was worked out by Switzerland, which holds the rotating leadership of the OSCE. It was presented last week to Russia, Ukraine, the United States and European Union. Russia has welcomed the initiative, which reflects some key demands of the insurgents. Russian President Vladimir Putin talked with Swiss President Didier Burkhalter about it last week and again Monday. The EU threw its weight behind the effort on Monday, and Germany's foreign minister talked it up in Ukraine on Tuesday. France and Germany had already pushed for a national dialogue between the interim government in Kiev and representatives of all Ukrainian regions. The United States is more skeptical of the plan's chances for success in part because it feels Russia didn't carry out its obligations under earlier agreements. That said, the U.S. appears to see little harm in testing Putin's willingness to accept this road map. The position of Ukraine's government is unclear. Acting Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk approved round table talks moderated by a veteran German diplomat, but insisted Tuesday that Ukraine — not the OSCE — should negotiate the future of the country with its own citizens. The foreign ministry lamented that the plan doesn't include any specific obligations for Russia.

NEXT STEPS

The OSCE is setting up a fund to finance a disarmament program that would get armed groups to give up their weapons and release hostages and buildings. It is also prepared to bolster its 200-member mission in Ukraine. Germany's foreign minister is in Ukraine trying to get the Ukrainian government and its foes to negotiate. But major hurdles remain: Ukraine's fumbling authorities would need to draft and pass an amnesty law, keep violence in check and organize talks with their opponents, which so far they have refused to do. And it's unclear who speaks for the insurgents, who lack a single leader or agreed goals. When Putin asked them not to hold last weekend's referendums they did so anyway. □

Obama presents top medal to Afghanistan veteran

WASHINGTON (AP) — It could have been over for Kyle J. White just 30 seconds into the firefight with the Taliban, when a rocket-propelled grenade knocked him unconscious. But he came to and by the time the four-hour firefight in Afghanistan was over, White, reeling from concussions and shrapnel in his face, had saved one comrade's life and helped secure the evacuation of other wounded Americans. On Tuesday, White became only the seventh living recipient of the Medal of Honor for actions in Iraq or Afghanistan, the latest reminder of the post-Sept. 11 conflicts and U.S. sacrifices. President Barack Obama has sought to bring to an end "We pay tribute to a soldier who embodies the courage of his generation," Obama said. With the medal, White, who was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress syndrome after the ambush, also draws attention to the recent scrutiny confronting the Veteran's Affairs health care system and allegations of lapses in care and

delays in mental health treatment.

Though Obama did not mention the VA controversies specifically, he told White: "You did your duty, and now it's time for America to do ours: after more than a decade of war, to welcome you home with the support and the benefits and opportunities that you've earned."

An Army account of the attack says White, then a 20-year-old Army specialist, and his team of 14 U.S. troops, along with Afghan National Army soldiers, were ambushed Nov. 9, 2007, after attempting to hold a meeting with village elders in the village of Aranas in Nuristan province. During the exchange of fire, White was knocked unconscious.

When he came to, he realized that most of his fellow Americans and all of the Afghans traveling with them had slid 150 feet down a rocky cliff for cover. Left at the top with White were platoon leader 1st Lt. Matthew C. Ferrara, Spc. Kain Schilling, Marine Sgt. Phillip A. Bocks, who was imbedded with the group, and its interpreter. White

set about trying to assess the condition of his fellow soldiers, running and crawl-

ing through gunfire only to find Ferrara dead and Bocks badly wounded.

Though he tried to stop Bocks' bleeding, the Marine later died. □



President Barack Obama awards the Medal of Honor to former Army Sgt. Kyle J. White during a ceremony in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, May 13, 2014. White is a former Army sergeant who saved a fellow soldier's life and helped secure the evacuation of other wounded Americans while under persistent fire during a 2007 ambush in Afghanistan. White is the seventh living recipient to be awarded the Medal of Honor for actions in Iraq or Afghanistan.

(AP Photo)

US man who plotted to kill Obama sentenced to death

SIOUX FALLS, South Dakota (AP) — A judge on Tuesday formally sentenced a man to death for killing a woman as part of what he said was a plot to assassinate President Barack Obama. The hearing Tuesday formalized the unanimous vote of a jury to sentence 44-year-old James McVay to death. McVay would have been sentenced to life in prison without parole if the jury's decision had not been unanimous. McVay pleaded guilty, but mentally ill, to murder in the 2011 stabbing of 75-year-old Maybelle Schein. McVay said he killed Schein and stole her car as part of his plan to drive to Washington and kill the president. He was later arrested in Madison, Wisconsin.

Schein's family declined to speak during the hearing. Prosecutors, McVay and his defense team also did not comment. "I don't have a lot to say here," said Circuit Judge Peter Lieberman. This is a situation where a jury's verdict has a lot more weight than what I could say." Public defender Traci Smith filed a motion hours before the hearing asking Lieberman to vacate the sentence based on remarks made by the prosecution during closing arguments last month. Smith argued that closing arguments about protecting the community "inflamed the passions" of the jury creating a bias against McVay, the Argus Leader newspaper reported. □ Lieberman rejected the

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Wildfire forces 20,000 evacuations near San Diego

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A wildfire roaring through Southern California forced evacuation orders for more than 20,000 homes on Tuesday, but so far only one mobile home burned as a high-pressure system brought unseasonable heat and gusty winds to the parched state.

San Diego's Emergency Operations Center says most of the homes are in the city and northern San Diego County.

The 700-acre (280-hectare) blaze erupted Tuesday morning, fueled by canyons full of brush and pushed by hot, dry winds. At least two high schools and one elementary school also were evacuated, police Detective Gary Hassen said.

Another fire destroyed a mobile home and prompted the evacuation of five homes in the rural town of Campo in southern San Diego County before it was largely surrounded, state fire Capt. Kendal Bortisser said.

North of Los Angeles, a wildfire erupted Tuesday afternoon in Santa Barbara County was quickly wind-whipped to 150 acres (60 hectares) and it threatened 150 to 200 homes in the town of Lompoc, authorities said. Evacuations were ordered.

There were downed power lines and heavy brush in the area, said David Sadecki of the Santa Barbara County Fire Department.

A half-dozen other blazes statewide all remained



Firefighters watch from a ridge as a helicopter drops retardant on an out-of-control wild fire Tuesday, May 13, 2014, in San Diego.

(AP Photo)

small, said Daniel Berlant, a spokesman for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Record high temperatures were likely through mid-week from Southern California north to the regions

around Monterey and San Francisco bays, the National Weather Service said. Downtown Los Angeles was 92 degrees Fahrenheit (33.5 degrees Celsius) at noon, 18 degrees F (10 degrees C) above normal. □

Radar center problems snarl Chicago air traffic

CHICAGO (AP) — About 700 flights were canceled Tuesday at Chicago's two airports after an electrical problem sent smoke into the control room of a regional radar facility, forcing officials to temporarily halt all air traffic at one of the nation's busiest aviation crossroads. The Federal Aviation Administration said all personnel were evacuated from the radar facility in suburban Elgin around 11:30 a.m. They were allowed to return about three hours later. The Chicago Department

of Aviation said a limited number of landings and departures had resumed by late afternoon.

Elgin Fire Capt. Anthony Bialek said a bathroom exhaust fan in a ceiling overheated and melted insulation on some wires, and smoke was pushed through the facility's ventilation system and into the control room. Bialek said it took about an hour to find the source of the smoke at Chicago Terminal Radar Approach Control, or TRACON. There were no injuries. □

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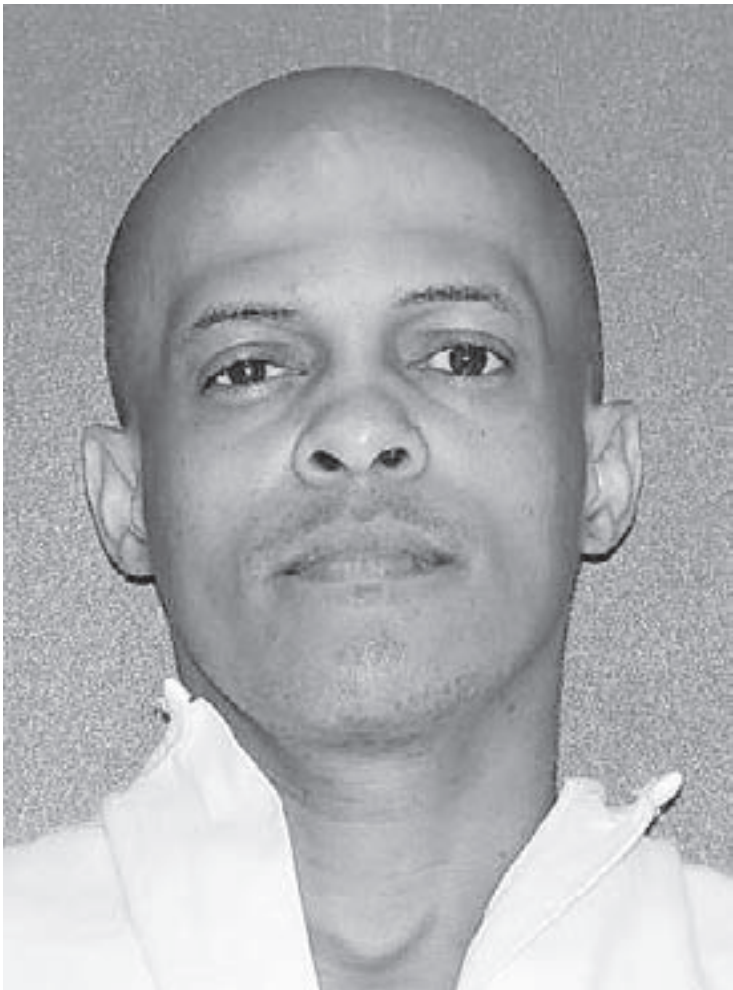
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Execution halted over mental impairment claim



This photo shows Robert Campbell. A federal appeals court halted Campbell's scheduled execution, Tuesday, May 13, 2014, so his attorneys can pursue appeals arguing he's mentally impaired and ineligible for the death penalty. (AP Photo/Texas DCJ)

MICHAEL GRACZYK
Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — A federal appeals court halted a convicted killer's scheduled execution Tuesday so his attorneys can pursue appeals arguing he's mentally impaired and ineligible for the death penalty. Robert James Campbell, 41, would have been the first U.S. inmate executed since a botched execution in Oklahoma two weeks ago. He had two separate appeals, one claiming mental impairment and another that challenged the state's plan to use a drug for which it will not reveal the source, as was the case with drugs used in Oklahoma. "I am happy. The Lord prevailed," Campbell said from a cell just outside the death chamber in Huntsville before being returned to death row at a prison about 45 miles (72 kilometers) to the east. The drug secrecy issue was pending before the U.S. Supreme Court when the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals halted his punishment about 2½ hours prior to his scheduled execution.

Campbell was set to die for killing a Houston bank teller in 1991. "Campbell and his attorneys have not had a fair opportunity to develop Campbell's claims of ineligibility for the death penalty," a three-judge panel of the New Orleans-based court said. "In light of the evidence we have been shown, we believe that Campbell must be given such an opportunity." That appeal contended Campbell wasn't mentally competent for execution because he has a 69 IQ. Courts generally set a 70 IQ as the minimum threshold. In 2002, the Supreme Court ruled mentally impaired people cannot be executed. Campbell's attorney, Rob Owen, argued Texas Department of Criminal Justice officials failed to turn over three intelligence tests from Campbell's earlier imprisonment that bolstered his claims of mental impairment. The records had been requested 10 years ago by a previous attorney who was told they didn't exist and only recently sur-

faced, he said. State attorneys contended defense lawyers never asked for the records until March. The next Texas execution is scheduled for August. Missouri has an execution scheduled for May 21 that now would become the first one since the botched injection in Oklahoma. Campbell's lawyers also made an issue of the drug to be used in the execution and the source not being identified. Like Oklahoma, Texas won't say where it gets its execution drugs, saying it needs to protect the producer's identity to prevent threats by death penalty opponents. Unlike Oklahoma, which used a three-drug combination in the April 29 botched execution of Clayton Lockett, Texas uses a single dose

of the sedative pentobarbital to kill inmates. During Lockett's lethal injection, the inmate's vein collapsed, prompting Oklahoma prison officials to halt the procedure. Lockett later died of a heart attack. Oklahoma has put executions on hold while an investigation is ongoing, but authorities there have suggested the trouble started with Lockett's vein rather than the drugs. Campbell's attorneys were among several arguing the incident demands greater execution drug transparency. Lockett writhed and grimaced after the lethal injection was administered, and corrections officials did not realize not all the drug had entered his body for 21 minutes. □

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Tea party looks for Republican primary win in US

WASHINGTON (AP) — The conservative tea party movement challenged the Republican establishment on Tuesday in Senate primaries that will decide the party's nominees from Nebraska and West Virginia and could influence its chances of gaining control of the upper chamber of Congress. Voters in the two states were deciding their lineups in the latest round of spring primaries ahead of the November midterm elections. In Nebraska, a three-way Senate primary showdown featured a candidate favored by conservatives aligned with the limited government, anti-tax tea party. And West Virginia was poised to nominate two women, which would ensure that a Senate seat always held by men will be held by a woman. In November's elections, Republicans aim to increase their majority in the House of Representatives and gain the Senate, where Democrats now control 55 of 100 seats. That

would give Republicans full control of Congress for the first time since they were swept out in 2006, during President George W. Bush's final term. President Barack Obama

hopes to avoid a similar fate in his final two years in the White House, and has already seen much of his legislative agenda stymied since Democrats lost control of the House in 2010.

Republicans had also hoped to capture the Senate in 2010 and 2012, but saw their chances fade as conservative candidates ousted establishment favorites in primaries and

then lost to vulnerable Democrats in the general elections.

The tea party, which was blamed by establishment Republicans for the party's recent failures to take the Senate, has struggled this year as candidates have lost in several states, and Nebraska stands as the insurgent movement's best remaining shot. Looking ahead to upcoming primaries, the tea party's chances to upset incumbents have been diminishing in states like Kentucky, where Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell faces re-election.

In Nebraska, the tea party, outside conservative groups and two of the right's heroes — ex-Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin and Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas — have rallied behind Ben Sasse, the president of Midland University. For months, Sasse has been locked in an increasingly negative race with former state treasurer Shane Osborn, who has the backing of the Washington establishment and allies of McConnell.

A third candidate has surged in recent weeks: Sid Dinsdale, the president of Pinnacle Bank, whose emergence could produce a surprise outcome. Sasse has the backing of some tea party and pro-business groups in his bid to replace Republican Sen. Mike Johanns, who is retiring after a single six-year term. Sasse has focused on his conservative credentials, opposition to abortion, support for gun rights and goal of repealing and replacing Obama's health care law, which is despised by conservative activists who influence the primary process. □



This photo shows Sen. Mike Johanns, R-Neb. speaking with reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington. The tea party challenges the Republican establishment in a Nebraska Senate primary showdown that's suddenly more compelling with a surging third candidate. Outside conservative groups have pumped hundreds of thousands of dollars into Nebraska. Ben Sasse is locked in an increasingly negative three-way race with former state treasurer Shane Osborn and Johanns.

(AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

Senate will take up tax breaks for business

JONATHAN WEISMAN
© 2014 New York Times

WASHINGTON - The Senate on Tuesday shrugged off the deficit concerns that were once an animating force on Capitol Hill, voting 96-3 to take up a package of business tax breaks without offering any way to pay for them. The procedural vote presaged final passage as early as this week and followed the House's overwhelming approval last week of legislation that would make permanent the research-and-development tax credit for businesses and raise the deficit by \$156 billion over the next

10 years. On that vote, 62 House Democrats joined virtually every Republican in ignoring President Barack Obama's veto threat because of the deficit implications.

"It's pretty remarkable," said Maya MacGuineas, president of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, a deficit watchdog group. "It's a shift from, 'This is a huge problem' - and if anyone looks at the long-term problems, it clearly still is - to 'We've made so much progress on the budget deficit' to doing things that actually hurt the debt. It's as though members of

Congress tried out fiscal discipline, didn't like how it felt and are falling back to bad habits." As the deficit continues to fall, it loosens the policy reins in Washington for the first time since Obama rammed through his stimulus law in the opening weeks of his presidency. Last week, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office reported that tax receipts were up 8 percent over the first seven months of the fiscal year, which began in October. Spending was down around 3 percent, and at \$301 billion, the federal budget deficit is \$187 billion lower than at

this time last year.

"We will not pull the plug before our nation's recovery is complete," said Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., the majority leader. "Let's work together to give America's families a fair shot."

The Senate's Expiring Provisions Improvement Reform and Efficiency Act, or EXPIRE, renews more than 50 tax credits through 2015, including the research and development tax credit, tax credits for investments in depressed areas, tax breaks for energy-efficient home improvements and tax breaks for higher education expenses. □



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US Financial Front:

America's retail sales rise a scant 0.1 percent in April

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. retail sales growth slowed in April, with consumers shopping less online and cutting back on purchases of furniture and electronics.

The Commerce Department said Tuesday that seasonally adjusted retail sales rose just 0.1 percent last month, after surging 1.5 percent in March following a harsh winter that had curtailed shopping.

Several economists said the April figures might have been depressed because of seasonal adjustments connected to a later than usual Easter. Still, the modest sales suggest that consumers may remain cautious during the still-slow economic recovery. Higher sales would help drive faster growth because consumers account for about 70 percent of the economy.

Auto sales increased 0.6 percent in April, and purchases at clothing stores were up 1.2 percent. But most of those gains were offset by declines in spending at restaurants, online retailers and furniture and electronics stores. Excluding autos and gasoline, retail sales fell 0.1 percent last month.

Wages have not budged much during the recovery, and growth has struggled to eclipse 3 percent, the average annual gain after World War II.

The Commerce Department previously reported that the economy grew just 0.1 percent in the January-March quarter. That figure could slip into negative territory as the government revises it, according to several economists.

But the brutal winter depressed the economy during the first quarter, and economic indicators since then have pointed to stronger growth in the current April-June quarter. Many economists are looking for a rebound to an annual growth rate of around 3 percent in the current quarter and similarly solid readings for the rest of the year.

Hiring has been strong for the past three months. Employers added 288,000 jobs in April, after gains of more than 200,000 in the previous two months. Average wages were flat in April, although each new job is providing another paycheck to be spent.

"At the end of the day, it is all about one's job, and job security," Jennifer Lee, a senior economist at BMO Capital Markets, said in a research note. "A job is a

job and that will help determine the ability for one to consume. And the U.S. labor market is improving steadily, which will support consumer spending."

The unusually late Easter might have caused some

sales in April to be shifted into March because of seasonal adjustments. That would indicate that consumer demand is stronger than suggested by April's retail sales report.

"History shows clearly that

the seasonal adjustments can't cope with very late Easters, which tend to boost reported March sales at the expense of April," said Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics. □



Anneka Johnson, of Estonia, walks with her son while shopping at Aventura Mall, in Aventura, Fla. The Commerce Department released mixed retail sales data for April on Tuesday, May 13, 2014. (AP Photo/Lynne Sladky)

Small business owners still cautious, surveys find

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. small business owners are keeping a cautious approach to running their companies even as they grow more optimistic.

Two surveys released Tuesday, one by Wells Fargo & Co. and the other by Bank of America Corp., found many owners still have conservative hiring plans and little appetite for loans.

Stronger revenue and cash flow are behind the increasing optimism. In the Bank of America spring survey, 68 percent of owners said they expect revenue to increase in the next 12 months. They feel confident about their local economies but have their eye on national and international

issues that could affect their businesses.

About three-quarters cited health care costs and the federal government's effectiveness, or lack thereof, as potential problems. Seventy percent are concerned about higher commodities prices.

Wells Fargo's second-quarter Small Business Index rose to 47 from the first quarter's 45, its highest level since the second quarter of 2008, before the financial meltdown. That was still far below the high of 114 hit in December 2006, but much better than the minus 28 posted in the third quarter of 2010.

The Wells Fargo survey found owners are gradu-

ally getting more optimistic about the prospects for their companies' financial situation a year from now. Sixty-seven percent forecast their businesses would be in good shape, up from 66 percent in the first quarter. Fifty-nine percent expect their cash flow to be good over the next year, up from 57 percent.

The Wells Fargo survey and Bank of America's are in line with other recent reports that show owners' confidence slowly improving.

Both surveys found owners willing to hire. In the Wells Fargo survey, 21 percent plan to hire in the next 12 months, little changed from 22 percent in the first

quarter. A larger number of owners in the Bank of America survey, 52 percent, said they were willing to hire, a jump of 21 percentage points from a year earlier. Despite that gain, Robb Hilson, head of small business banking at Bank of America, still notes owners' caution. "They're probably not going to hire in explosive numbers like they did 10 years ago," he said.

Loans are easier for small businesses to get, adding to owners' confidence, although many don't want to borrow. Only 14 percent of owners surveyed by Bank of America said they plan to apply for loans this year, down from 19 percent a year ago. □



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After decades, Florida man discovers he isn't a US citizen

LIZETTE ALVAREZ

© 2014 New York Times

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - After living nearly a half century in the United States - marrying and raising a family here, paying taxes and working for decades for the federal government - Mario Hernandez made a discovery recently that rattled him to his core: He is not a U.S. citizen. In fact, he is not even a U.S. resident.

Nobody had ever told him. Not his mother or his grandparents. Not the U.S. Army, where he served for three years in the 1970s. Not the election supervisors in four states who tallied his votes in every major election since Jimmy Carter won the White House. Not the two state agencies where he was employed, one in Washington state and the other in Florida. And not the two federal agencies, including the Justice Department, where he spent most of his career as a prison supervisor handling notorious inmates and undergoing thorough background checks every five years. Citizenship is a requirement for the job.

The revelation came only after Hernandez and his wife, Bonita, started planning a trip to celebrate his recent retirement from the Bureau of Prisons after 22 years. The two had settled on a Caribbean cruise, which would have been Hernandez's first time out of the country since arriving in 1965 as a Cuban refugee. On a cruise line website, he found out that a U.S. passport was a requirement. He did not have one and wondered whether he even had naturalization papers. "I thought I was a citizen - I've always been proud of being a citizen," said Hernandez, 58, the father of two grown children, one an

engineer who is an Afghan war veteran. "This has really messed with my head."

At a time when immigration overhaul remains on the table in Congress, Hernandez's plight is the latest example, and one of the more extreme, of how large federal bureaucracies can stumble when it comes to identifying who is here legally, illegally or somewhere in between. With so many immigrants in the country under so many varying rules, keeping track can sometimes pose monumental challenges.

For Hernandez, the consequences are worrisome. Deportation is not something he would face as a Cuban refugee and military veteran. But he can no longer vote, and he cannot leave the country. And he could face prison and fines for having falsely claimed citizenship and for voting.

At the moment, he exists in immigration limbo - not fully legal or illegal. After he attended an immigration interview in March, his request for citizenship was denied. It should not have been, said his lawyer, Elizabeth Ricci, from Tallahassee. Hernandez was entitled to citizenship, she said, because he had served in the Army during a "designated period of hostility" at the end of the Vietnam War era.

A second letter from the immigration service followed. It said the case would be reopened but asked for more information, including why he had claimed to be a citizen, had registered to vote and had voted.

Sharon Scheidhauer, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, said the agency could not comment on individual cases.

"I think they are gravely

embarrassed," Ricci said, "and are trying to shift the burden on him now to make him look like a criminal."

Not only did Hernandez work for the Bureau of Prisons (and before that the Bureau of Indian Affairs), but he had been a supervisor, overseeing day-to-day operations, detainees and

By all accounts, Hernandez is a make-the-best-of-it kind of man who was taught to be self-reliant at an early age. But he is unnerved by the turn of events.

"It's like I'm living a bad dream," he said as he sat in his home decorated with Holstein cow knickknacks and dozens of framed photographs of his children

ment Hernandez has is a parole document, which he received as a 9-year-old when he arrived at Miami's Freedom Tower with his family. The paper allowed him to remain in the United States indefinitely.

Cuban citizens are granted special immigration privileges when they flee Cuba and arrive in the United



Mario Hernandez, who arrived as a child in 1965 as a Cuban refugee, and after serving in the U.S. Army and retiring from a government job, found out he is not a U.S. citizen, in Tallahassee, Fla., May 6, 2014. Hernandez's plight is the latest example of how massive federal bureaucracies can stumble in identifying who is here legally, illegally or somewhere in between.

(Bryan Anselm/The New York Times)

inmates, including terrorists. By the time he retired, he had a desk full of commendations. In 1995, he personally kept watch over the two Oklahoma City bombers, Terry Nichols and Timothy McVeigh, keeping an eye on each in their isolation cells for 12 hours a day on separate weeks over the course of a month. When Willie Falcon, the notorious cocaine trafficker from Miami, had to change prisons, Hernandez was in charge of the transfer - one of several he oversaw involving high-profile prisoners

and grandchildren. "This cannot be real; I've been living here 49 years. This is the only country I've ever known."

Elizabeth C. Pines, a longtime immigration lawyer in Miami, said she had run across a handful of similar cases but none as extreme as this one.

"It goes to show you how broken the system is for a federal and a state agency to have not even checked his background - his criminal background, yes, but not his immigration background," she said.

The only immigration docu-

States. First, they are granted parole. After a year, unless they are criminals, they can become U.S. residents. Five years later, they can become U.S. citizens. The only hitch is that the paperwork must be filed, which Hernandez's parents never did on his behalf.

Growing up in Fullerton, Calif., Hernandez always assumed that all of this had been done for him as a child. Nobody ever mentioned his immigration status at home - less a topic of conversation in those days, particularly for Cuban refugees, Hernandez said. □

Nigeria opens door for talks with Boko Haram

BASHIR ADIGUN

HARUNA UMAR

Associated Press

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP) —

U.S. reconnaissance aircraft flew over Nigeria in search of the nearly 300 kidnapped schoolgirls Tuesday, a day after the Boko Haram militant group released the first evidence that at least some of them are still alive and demanded that jailed fighters be swapped for their freedom. A Nigerian government official said "all options" were open — including negotiations or a possible military operation with foreign help — in the effort to free the girls, who were shown fearful and huddled together dressed in gray Islamic veils as they sang Quranic verses under the guns of their captors in a video released Monday.

The footage was verified as authentic by Nigerian authorities, who said 54 of the girls had been identified by relatives, teachers and classmates who watched the video late Tuesday.

The abduction has spurred a global movement to secure the girls' release amid fears they would be sold into slavery, married off to



Borno state governor, Kashim Shettima, centre, addresses demonstrators who were calling on the government to rescue the kidnapped schoolgirls of the Chibok secondary school, in Abuja, Nigeria, Tuesday, May 13, 2014.

fighters or worse following a series of threats by Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau.

Protesters marched through the streets of the capital, Abuja, Tuesday to demand more government action to find and free the girls, who are believed to be held in the vast Sambisi forest some 20 miles (30 kilometers) from the eastern town of Chibok, where they were seized from their

school on April 15.

A U.S. reconnaissance mission was being carried out by a manned MC-12 surveillance aircraft, which is based in Niger, according to senior U.S. defense officials in Washington. In addition to the turboprop model which has seen heavy use in Afghanistan, U.S. officials were also considering the use of drones.

Gen. David Rodriguez, head of U.S. Africa Com-

(AP Photo/Sunday Alamba)

mand, was in Abuja on Tuesday meeting with officials at the U.S. Embassy, according to the defense officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly.

The Nigerian military said in

a statement that Rodriguez visited Nigeria's defense headquarters to discuss U.S. support for Nigeria's campaign against the Boko Haram militants, who have killed more than 1,500 people this year in a campaign of bombings, massacres and kidnappings.

Nigeria's government initially said there would be no negotiations with Boko Haram, but that stance appeared to have been relaxed amid growing public outrage at home and abroad over the failure to rescue the girls.

Mike Omeri, the director of the government's information agency, said all options were being considered, including the possibility of a military operation with foreign help.

"At the moment, because all options are open, we are interacting with experts, military and intelligence experts from other parts of the world," he said late Monday. "These are part of the options that are available to us, and many more." □

Hagel talks to Saudis about Syria, Iran

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AP)

— U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel flew to Saudi Arabia Tuesday for meetings with leaders there at the outset of a week-long Middle East trip designed to reassure allies of the Obama administration's commitment to their defense.

Hagel arrived in the Red Sea port city of Jeddah and immediately met with the deputy defense minister, Salman bin Sultan. Later he was meeting with Crown Prince Salman, the designated successor to King Abdullah.

The Saudis are hosting a meeting Wednesday of defense ministers from the Gulf Cooperation Council states, including Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

It is their first session with a U.S. defense secretary since 2008, and the formal agenda includes missile defense and other security issues linked to Iran.

Hagel said he also will discuss with the Gulf ministers the civil war in Syria and the nuclear negotiations with Iran.

On Friday, the State Department's top arms control official, Rose Gottemoeller, said Syria has moved about 92 percent of its chemical weapons stocks to port for shipment out of the country. In a breakfast meeting with reporters in Washington, the undersecretary of state for arms control said the rest of the weapons are at a single site near Damascus.

The head of the United Nations mission charged with

destroying Syria's chemical weapons had said earlier that the last 16 containers of chemical agents are in a contested area that is currently inaccessible due to the fighting.

The U.S. has a ship on standby to undertake the destruction of Syria's chemicals.

The MV Cape Ray has on board two huge machines, called field deployable hydrolysis systems, which will mix the chemicals with heated water and other chemicals to break down the toxic weapons in a titanium reactor, making them inert.

On Iran, U.S. officials have said the Obama administration is concerned about an emerging threat to talks designed to seal a nuclear deal with Tehran. □

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151 dead, many trapped In Turkish coal mine

Continued from front

Authorities had earlier said that the blast left between 200 to 300 miners underground and were preparing for the possibility that the death toll could jump dramatically, making arrangements to set up a cold storage facility to hold the corpses of miners recovered from the site. Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan postponed a one-day visit to Albania scheduled for Wednesday and planned to visit Soma instead. The rescue effort was being hampered by the fact that the mine was made up of tunnels that were kilometers (miles) long, said Cengiz Ergun, the leader of Manisa province, where the town is located. Hundreds of people gathered outside the mine and the hospital in Soma seeking news of their loved ones. NTV television said people broke into applause as rescued workers arrived in ambulances. Interviewed by Dogan news agency, some com-

plained about the lack of information from state and company officials about the situation of the trapped workers. Police set up fences and stood guard around Soma state hospital to keep the crowds away. SOMA Komur Isletmeleri A.S., which owns the mine, confirmed that a number of its workers were killed but would not give a specific figure. It said the accident occurred despite the "highest safety measures and constant controls" and added that an investigation was being launched. "Our main priority is to get our workers out so that they may be reunited with their loved ones," the company said in a statement. Mining accidents are common in Turkey, which is plagued by poor safety conditions. Turkey's worst mining disaster was a 1992 gas explosion that killed 263 workers near the Black Sea port of Zonguldak. □



Miners carry a rescued miner after an explosion and fire at a coal mine killed at least 150 miners and left hundreds of workers trapped underground, in Soma, in western Turkey, Tuesday, May 13, 2014, a Turkish official said. Twenty people were rescued from the mine but one later died in the hospital, Soma administrator Mehmet Bahattin Atci told reporters. The town is 155 miles south of Istanbul. The death toll was expected to rise.

(AP Photo/Depo Photos)

Car bombs kill 34 as Iraqis await vote count

SAMEER N. YACCOUB

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Militants unleashed a wave of car bombings in Iraq on Tuesday, killing at least 34 people and sending thick, black smoke into the Baghdad skies in a show of force meant to intimidate the majority Shiites as they marked what is meant to be a joyous holiday for their sect. The attacks came nearly two weeks after Iraqis cast ballots in the country's first parliamentary election since the U.S. military withdrawal in 2011. No preliminary results have yet been released, deepening a sense of uncertainty in a country strained by a resurgence of violence. It was the deadliest day in Iraq since April 28, when militant strikes on polling stations and other targets killed 46. An al-Qaida spin-off group known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant claimed responsibility for

the attacks, adding that they were in retaliation for military operations being carried out by government forces in Fallujah. "We tell the spiteful Shiites and their government that we will save no efforts to target your gatherings and centers in all over Baghdad," said the statement. The authenticity of the statement could not be independently verified, but its style was consistent with previous statements. The militant group, made up of Sunni Muslim extremists, has strengthened control over parts of western Iraq, including the city of Fallujah and parts of Anbar provincial capital of Ramadi, since late December. It seeks to undermine the Shiite Muslim-led government's efforts to maintain security across the country. Coordinated car bomb attacks against Shiites, whom it considers heretics, are one of its favorite tactics. All of Tuesday's blasts were caused by explosives-lad-

en vehicles parked in public areas. They coincided with the Shiite communities' celebration of the birthday of Imam Ali, the Prophet Muhammad's cousin and son-in-law and the sect's most sacred martyr. Two blasts hit Baghdad's poor Shiite district of Sadr City, killing six people and wounding 13, according to police. Associated Press journalists on the scene shortly after one of the bombings saw black smoke rising as ambulances rushed to the scene, sirens wailing. Firefighters struggled to extinguish the fire as security forces sealed off the area. A short while later, a car bomb exploded in a commercial street in the capital's eastern district of Jamila, killing three people and wounding 10. Police said a fourth car bomb went off near a traffic police office in eastern Baghdad, killing four people and wounding seven. □



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Brazil bus strike strands many in Rio de Janeiro

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Bus drivers demanding higher pay began a 48-hour strike in Rio de Janeiro on Tuesday, forcing hundreds of thousands of passengers in Brazil's second-largest city to seek alternative ways to get to work.

The strike renewed concerns about public services and safety in Rio and the other cities that will host World Cup games starting in less than a month.

Rio bus drivers staged a 24-hour strike last week and warned they would walk off their jobs again if officials failed to meet their demands, which include a 40 percent pay hike.

Rio Onibus, the trade association representing Rio de Janeiro's bus companies, said more than 70 buses were damaged by rock-throwing strikers who also paralyzed traffic in parts of the city with road blocks and demonstrations. Last week more than 300 buses were damaged.

Police said six people were arrested after throwing rocks and pieces of wood at buses. Another two were detained for trying to stop buses driven by non-striking drivers from circulating.

Rio Onibus press officer Alexandre Almeida said the strike prevented 84 percent of the city's nearly 9,000 buses from circulating. Nearly 1.9 million people use these buses every day to get to and from work. Almeida said the strike "slowed things down" but did not bring Rio to a standstill.

"Many managed to get to work or to school by car pooling and using the subway system, public transit vans, commuter trains and intercity buses," he said by telephone. □

Venezuela opposition threatens to end crisis talks

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Members of Venezuela's opposition said Tuesday they may pull out of crisis negotiations with the government over what they consider an unjustified crackdown on recent protests.

Negotiators for the Democratic Unity alliance said that the mass arrest of more than 200 student

activists last week and security forces' refusal Monday to let protesters march downtown are souring the climate for the month-old talks.

To express its disapproval, the opposition unilaterally suspended closed-door meetings scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, according to Ramon Jose Medina, one of the talks'

coordinators. A meeting Thursday with foreign ministers from several South American nations who are mediating the talks is also in doubt. "The government will be responsible if the dialogue fails," Medina said in a statement.

The talks are focused on easing tensions after more than three months of unrest that has left at least

41 people on both sides dead.

But progress on issues ranging from a proposal to free jailed activists to the filling of positions on the national electoral council has been painstakingly slow, giving room to claims by students and hardliners that the talks are a ploy by President Nicolas Maduro to deflect international criticism. □

Rapping rebels promote Colombia peace talks

LIBARDO CARDONA

Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)

— Colombia's largest rebel group is turning to rap music to try to rally support for peace talks. The fast-paced, 4-minute clip that began circulating on social media Tuesday is called "Colombians, everybody to the peace talks." It was produced by negotiators in Havana for the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia along with Cuban rappers Cuentas Claras.

Featuring prominently in the video is Dutch-born guerrilla Tanja Nijmeijer, who is taking part in talks after Colombia suspended a warrant for her arrest and extradition to the U.S. for her role in the 2003 kidnapping of three American defense contractors.

Sporting a camouflaged tank top and an army-green rebel cap, Nijmeijer melodiously extols the FARC's defense of Colombia's peasants as "the reason for my life." Another negotiator making a cameo is Miguel Pascuas, one of the FARC's founders a half-century ago during a violent war with the state over land rights.



Dutch-born guerrilla Tanja Nijmeijer, of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, sings a tribute to FARC founder Manuel Marulanda, on the sixth anniversary of his death, in Havana, Cuba. Colombia's largest rebel group is trying to rally support for peace talks with a new rap video. Nijmeijer features prominently in the video, which exalts the FARC's role as a defender of Colombia's peasants. (AP Photo/Franklin Reyes)

The nearly two-year-old talks have been under fire as Colombians head to the polls later this month. President Juan Manuel Santos has staked his re-election bid on a promise to negotiate a landmark accord with the FARC. But his closest rival, Oscar Ivan Zuluaga, an ally of powerful former President Alvaro Uribe, has

been gaining in the polls while criticizing the government for being too soft on the rebels.

The FARC video shows that rebel negotiators aren't in any rush to give up longstanding demands for a bilateral cease-fire and a constituent assembly to rewrite the constitution to give a bigger voice to marginalized groups. But in-

terspersed with diatribes against Colombia's elite, images of abuses by security forces and U.S.-funded fumigation planes is a message of optimism about the peace talks.

In a statement accompanying the release, the FARC says that "to reach peace, we must learn to speak without fear, without taboos." □

Puerto Rico priest faces federal sex charges

DANICA COTO
Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — U.S. authorities

in Puerto Rico on Tuesday arrested a Roman Catholic priest and former school director on charges including sexual trafficking of children in the first federal case of its kind in the U.S. territory.

Israel Berrios, 58, is accused of sexually abusing an altar boy from the time he was about 8 years old until he turned 17, according to Puerto Rico Justice Secretary Cesar Miranda.

"All this began with the seduction of material things," Miranda said, who alleged the boy was given money, a computer, a camera and was taken on a cruise. He said the boy is now a 21-year-old university student.

The arrest is part of a widespread probe into multiple church abuse allegations in the island of 3.6 million people, where more than 70 percent identify themselves as Catholic.

U.S. Attorney Rosa Emilia Rodriguez said the boy's mother had given him permission to take a four-day cruise to the Bahamas in July 2008 with Berrios and a married couple they knew from church.

The boy was raised by his mother and did not have a relationship with his father, which led to the priest becoming like a member of the family, said Angel Melendez, a

Puerto Rico-based special agent for Homeland Security Investigations of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Berrios also had served as director of a Catholic school in the central town of Aibonito that the boy attended.



In this March, 2014 photo, a man gives money to a beggar after Mass outside the San Felipe Cathedral in the Arecibo Diocese in Arecibo, Puerto Rico. — U.S. authorities in Puerto Rico on Tuesday arrested a Roman Catholic priest and former school director on charges including sexual trafficking of children in the first federal case of its kind in the U.S. territory.

(AP Photo/Danica Coto)

agency.

"He is the only victim we have interviewed, but we don't dismiss that there might be others," Melendez said.

ICE spokesman Ivan Ortiz said Berrios was a priest in the Diocese of Caguas, south of the capital of San Juan. He said the priest was arrested in the

northern town of Naranjito.

Puerto Rico prosecutors filed charges of lewd acts against Berrios, who has been suspended as a priest but not expelled.

Officials at the Diocese of Caguas said the bishop was not immediately available for comment, but Berrios himself told reporters he was at peace in a brief statement as he entered a courthouse.

"Although my hands and feet are handcuffed, there are other people who are imprisoned by their conscience," he said without elaborating. Berrios is the first priest to face federal sex charges of this kind in Puerto Rico, though local prosecutors are investigating at least 17 other priests and eight dioceses facing similar allegations.

Prosecutors have already charged one of six defrocked priests from the Diocese of Arecibo with committing lewd acts. Edwin Antonio Mercado Viera is scheduled to appear in court in late May. The Diocese of Arecibo is fighting a request from Puerto Rico's justice department to obtain confidential documents related to the sex abuse probe, and the island's Supreme Court recently agreed to hear the case. Officials of the diocese argue they have already provided sufficient information and seek to protect the identity of those who made the allegations. □

Jamaica to cut power to theft prone towns

DAVID MCFADDEN
Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — Jamaica's sole power

distributor is slashing the number of hours that electricity is provided to entire communities where power theft is rampant, officials said Tuesday. The new move by the Jamaica Public Service Company was blasted by the main opposition party and the Caribbean country's utility regulator has requested a meeting with the power company because of the impact on legitimate customers. Senior utility official Gary Barrow said the company has "tried everything to reduce electricity theft" and is now forced to cut hours that power is provided to neighborhoods where more than 70 percent of it is pilfered. The company says it is trying to minimize effects on businesses, hospitals and schools in eight impoverished communities that have so far been identified as prone to widespread theft. Last year, the company removed nearly 200,000 illegal lines, audited about 113,000 accounts and collaborated with police to arrest roughly 1,200 people suspected of energy theft. But high levels of theft continue, causing "extensive damage to the company's equipment and ongoing power outages caused by illegal connections," the utility said in a statement.

Karl Samuda, the opposition Jamaica Labor Party's spokesman on energy, said he believes the strategy violates the company's license. The utility, typically referred to as JPS, is unfairly punishing hardworking people who pay their electricity bills, he said. "It escapes me as to why JPS would opt to act in this manner and expose itself to all kinds of legal liabilities and moral hazards," Samuda said. Jamaica's Office of Utilities Regulation said it was seeking a meeting with the power company's executives and requires more information about its decision. □

Mosquito-borne virus spreads rapidly in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — A mosquito-borne

virus that was detected for the first time in Haiti last week has quickly spread throughout the Caribbean nation, a health official said Tuesday.

Some 1,529 cases of the chikungunya virus have been confirmed, said Ronald Singer, a spokesman for Haiti's health ministry. The bulk of the cases, about 900 of them, were found in the west department, where the capital of

Port-au-Prince is located. Another 300 cases were confirmed in northwestern Haiti.

The new numbers seem to represent a startling jump over the past week. The health ministry said last Tuesday that lab results confirmed a mere 14 cases.

Since then, Port-au-Prince has been abuzz with people complaining about a sudden and debilitating illness that's been referred to as "the fever."

The symptoms of chikungunya include not just a sharp fever but also headache, full-body rash and joint pain. The illness is rarely fatal but recovery usually takes about a week. Some people experience joint pain for months to years.

The illness, which is most commonly found in Asia and Africa, was first detected in the Caribbean in December on tiny St. Martin.

It was the first time that lo-

cal transmission of chikungunya had been reported in the Americas. Since then, it has spread to nearly a dozen other islands and French Guiana.

Its arrival in Haiti was expected. In neighboring Dominican Republic, authorities have confirmed at least 150 to 200 cases.

There is no vaccine for chikungunya and it is spread by the pervasive *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, which also transmits dengue fever in the region. □



Team Efforts Get Team Aruba First Final of the Season



ORANJESTAD/VALDOSTA, Ga - With no truck or trailer to transport the Aruba.com Jerry Haas Mustang from its shop in Union, S.C. to the PDRA Georgia Drags, Team Aruba could have easily been sidelined as they awaited the arrival of their new hauler. However, thanks to the generosity of their chassis builder Jerry Haas, Team Aruba not only made it to the Georgia Drags, they made it all the way to the final round. Haas did his part in getting the beautiful, Aruba-themed Extreme Pro Stock Mustang to the track and Team Aruba did the rest. Trevor Eman qualified fifth in the XPS field with a 4.12. He took out number four qualifier, North Carolina's Jeff Dobbins in round one. Then edged out another Carolina racer, Richard Penland, in a semi final round pedal fest. The finals

pitted Team Aruba against Cary Goforth who won the PDRA opener at Rockingham Dragway.

Although Eman posted a nice 4.167 run at 175.30 MPH, Goforth crossed the stripe first with a 4.153 at 175.84 MPH.

"First and foremost, I need to compliment my team," thanked Eman. "Everybody worked very hard, and we can see the end result of that. Jerry Haas Race Cars, Jon Kaase Racing Engines, RAM Clutches, Braswell Carburetion and Penske Racing Shocks have helped us with all the components and tools needed to have a top performing Pro Stock Mustang.

"I and the rest of the team would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Jerry Haas. After hearing that we sold our trailer and that we are still waiting on delivery of our new one, he offered

to carry our car and equipment to Valdosta. So, without his transportation support, it would have been rather difficult to even get to the race, let alone make it to the final.

"Unfortunately, we didn't have [crew member] Bobby with us to share in our successful weekend. He is leading a gospel group called the Riverside Boys on a trip to Aruba for two nights of concerts. We will catch up with Bobby and the group when we arrive back home and support them during two nights of wonderful music they plan on performing for people in Aruba."

With the Georgia Drags under its belt, the PDRA is now just two races old, but has won fans and followers across the industry. Team Aruba was pleased with the efforts they saw at the Georgia Drags.

"A congratulations needs to go out the the entire PDRA crew and staff," commented Eman. "They did a wonderful job this weekend, it being only the second PDRA event to take place so far. Rain came in and caused racing to end on Saturday night, but they were able to pull it together and complete the event on Sunday. Thanks in large part to the Traction Twins, all competitors had a safe racing surface all weekend long. In the entire facility this weekend I don't know if there is anybody that could have worked harder than the Traction Twins."

Team Aruba had qualified on the pole at their last visit to South Georgia Motorsports Park, but rain canceled the weekend before the team had a chance to defend the pole in eliminations. Although the team would surely have liked to

have taken home the trophy at the Georgia Drags, a runner up finish provided some satisfaction for their unfinished business of 2013. "It's another season, and we are still performing strong with the support of Aruba and the Aruba Tourism Authority," finished Eman. "We cannot thank these two pillars enough for the support they provide us. If it wasn't for the fact that we are racing to promote our island we wouldn't have been able to do this for the tenth year now." Keep up with Team Aruba at www.facebook.com/teamarubaracing and on Twitter @TeamArubaRacing.

Find race results, team updates, videos and photos. Also leave your comments to cheer on Team Aruba! For more on your Aruba vacation visit www.Aruba.com. □

Loyal visitors honored at the Paradise Beach Villas



EAGLE BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of very nice families, whom are loyal and friendly Visitors of Aruba, at the Paradise Beach Villas as Distinguished Visitors and Ambassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 and 20-or-more consecutive years.

The honorees were Mr. Kieran and Mrs. Lois Ballah of Fergus, Ontario, Mrs. Dawn Rising of St. Catharines, Ontario, Mr. Jon and Mrs. Carol Marsh of Spring Valley, New York, and Mr. Al Tannenbaum and Mrs. Sheila Tronn-Tannenbaum of New York. The honorees are loyal members of the Paradise Beach Villas and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, Casinos and being

on Aruba and staying at the Paradise is like being home for them. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel represent-

ing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Milca Erasmus representing the Paradise Beach Villas. □



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The Caribbean Festival is an initiative of the Ministry of Tourism, Transportation, Primary Sector and Culture. Operated by the Caribbean Foundation.



Official Press Release:

Clarification Regarding Stay of Visitors With Property In Aruba



ORANJESTAD - Recently a press release was published regarding the maximum amount of stay in Aruba. This information was not well understood in the timeshare industry and among other visitors with property on island. By means of this press release, the Ministry of Urban Development, Infrastructure and Integration together with the Ministry of Tourism, Transportation, Primary Sector and Culture would like to clear up this misunderstanding. Aruba has a large percent-

age of loyal visitors that have property in Aruba (Time Share, Condominium, Residence, Apartment). These are valued visitors of Aruba and the Government of Aruba maintains a friendly policy for these visitors.

Visitors that do have a property in Aruba (Time Share, Condominium, Residence, Apartment) or a yacht in territorial waters of Aruba with a minimum length of 14 meters or more, or those with a Dutch nationality, are the only visitors that can be admitted for a period of a maximum of 180 consecutive days and a maximum of 180 days per calendar year.

The Minister in charge of Integration and the Minister in charge of Tourism have sent a letter to all airlines to clarify this government policy to avoid that visitors with a valid airline ticket

with a round-trip ticket beyond 30 days, are challenged by the airline.

The visitor can indicate the amount of intended days (maximum 180 consecutive days, not to exceed a total of 180 per calendar year) on the ED card. The visitor must have the documents to prove property ownership, a valid passport, a valid round-trip ticket, proof of sufficient funds for the amount of stay on the island. If the immigration officer gives the amount of days requested, the visitor does not have to go to DIMAS to request an extension of his/her stay.

As an example, if a tourist shows to the Aruba immigration that he has 60 days of time share, he/she can receive a permission to stay 60 days. If the visitor cannot show this at immigration, he/she always has the option to request an extension from DIMAS.

Again, the total stay cannot surpass 180 days in a calendar year.

For tourists that do NOT own property in Aruba, other

calendar year.

In general, immigration would give 30 days at the border. For an extension, the tourist can apply at DI-



rules apply. Tourists without property can remain a maximum of 90 consecutive days in Aruba and a maximum of 180 days per

MAS (60 additional days). The total amount of days a tourist can stay on the island cannot surpass 180 days per calendar year.□



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AL Capsules Buehrle first to 7 wins, Jays snap skid

The Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Mark Buehrle became the first seven-game winner in the majors, and Jose Bautista and Brett Lawrie homered as the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Los Angeles Angels 7-3 Monday to avoid a four-game sweep.

Buehrle (7-1) allowed two runs and six hits in six-plus innings. He walked a season-high five and struck out two. The left-hander came in with an AL-leading 1.91 ERA, but saw that rise to 2.04, the same as Detroit's Max Scherzer.

Bautista hit a three-run homer in the first inning and Lawrie, who returned to the lineup after missing six games with a sore right hamstring, added a two-run shot in the sixth as the Blue Jays avoided what would have been their first four-game sweep to the Angels.

Both homers came off Angels left-hander C.J. Wilson (4-3), who allowed five runs and six hits in six innings.

TIGERS 4, ORIOLES 1

BALTIMORE (AP) — Rick Porcello won his fifth straight start as Detroit beat Baltimore in a duel between AL division leaders that included a benches-clearing confrontation.

After Ian Kinsler's two-run homer in the eighth made it 4-1, Orioles starter Bud Norris hit Torii Hunter in the ribcage with a pitch. Hunter yelled at Norris, and as he made his way toward first base, the Tigers outfielder moved slightly in the direction of the mound.

That caused both dugouts to empty, and relievers from both bullpens charged toward the infield.

Continued on Page 20



C.B. THREE

Heat take a commanding 3-1 lead over Nets

Miami Heat center Chris Bosh (1) and Brooklyn Nets center Kevin Garnett (2) watch Bosh's tie-breaking three-point shot with 57 seconds on the clock in the fourth quarter of Game 4 of a second-round NBA playoff basketball game at the Barclays Center, Monday, May 12, 2014, in New York. The Heat won 102-96 to go up 3-1 in the series. Associated Press

NL Capsules

Lake homers, drives in 6, Cubs rout Cards 17-5

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Junior Lake homered, doubled twice and drove in six runs as the Chicago Cubs broke loose, routing St. Louis 17-5 Monday and forcing the Cardinals to finish with infielder Daniel Descalso as a relief pitcher.

After the Cubs totaled just four runs while getting swept in a three-game series at Atlanta over the weekend, Emilio Bonifacio scored five times himself in this romp over the Cardinals. Chicago had lost seven of eight overall and has the worst record in the league at 13-24, but is 4-3 against the defending NL champions.

The Cubs hit for the cycle in the first five batters — Bonifacio doubled, Anthony Rizzo singled, Starlin Castro tripled and Mike Olt's two-run homer capped a four-run first inning.

Cardinals reliever Randy Choate gave up six runs in the ninth and left with two outs. Descalso made his first pro pitching appearance and retired the only batter he faced, getting Olt on a fly ball.

Travis Wood (3-4) beat St. Louis for the second time in three starts despite giving



Chicago Cubs' Junior Lake, right, watches his three-run home run as St. Louis Cardinals' Yadier Molina, left, looks on in the second inning in a baseball game, Monday, May 12, 2014, at Busch Stadium in St. Louis.

Associated Press

up five runs in six innings.

Tyler Lyons (0-3) surrendered nine runs in four innings in his fourth start in place of injured Joe Kelly.

DODGERS 6, MARLINS 5
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Yasiel Puig extended his career-best hitting streak to 12 games with his third home run in four days, a go-ahead three-run shot, and drew a bases-loaded walk in Los Angeles victory over Florida.

Dan Haren (5-1) overcame a shaky start following his 3-2 loss at Washington last Wednesday, allowing three runs and seven hits over seven innings without walking a batter after losing his previous four decisions against the Marlins.

Brian Wilson inherited a 6-3 lead from Haren and promptly gave up a lead-off walk to Christian Yelich and a home run by pinch-hitter and former Dodger

Reed Johnson on the next pitch. But Kenley Jansen pitched a perfect ninth for his 12th save.

Yelich helped stake Tom Koehler (3-3) to a 3-1 lead with a solo homer in the third, but the Marlins' right-hander never made it through the fourth.

GIANTS 4, BRAVES 2

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Tim Lincecum struck out 11 in his best start of the year for San Francisco and Tyler Colvin backed him with a home run and a go-ahead, two-run triple in the seventh inning.

Lincecum (3-2) left to a roaring standing ovation after pitching a season-high 7 2-3 innings in his first start of eight getting past the sixth. B.J. Upton hit a tying solo homer in the fifth, then was caught stealing on replay review as the potential go-ahead run in the top of the seventh.

Upton hit a one-out double and was ruled to have stolen third on a slide below a reaching Pablo Sandoval. Giants manager Bruce Bochy challenged the call by third base umpire Dana DeMuth, and it was overturned in 2 minutes, 7 seconds.

NATIONALS 6, DIAMOND-

BACKS 5

PHOENIX (AP) — Pinch-hitter Kevin Frandsen and Danny Espinosa each hit solo homers in the ninth inning, helping Washington rally past Arizona in Matt Williams' return to the desert.

Williams was a fixture in Arizona before becoming Washington's manager this offseason.

His new team scored four runs early, shut down for four innings, and tied it when Espinosa hit the second pitch of the ninth by Addison Reed (1-3) just over the wall in right.

Frandsen put the Nationals up by lining his second career pinch-hit homer to left and Rafael Soriano stranded a runner at second in the ninth for his eighth save. Tyler Clippard (3-2) pitched a scoreless inning, Ian Desmond hit a two-run homer and Tyler Moore added a solo shot for Washington.

A.J. Pollock hit a two-run homer and Aaron Hill had three hits for Arizona.

In other NL games it was N.Y. Mets 9, N.Y. Yankees 7; Chicago Cubs 17, St. Louis 5; Washington 6, Arizona 5; L.A. Dodgers 6, Miami 5; and San Francisco 4, Atlanta 2. □



New York Yankees' Carlos Beltran, left, scores past Los Angeles Angels catcher Chris Iannetta on a sacrifice fly by Yangervis Solarte during the first inning of a baseball game in Anaheim, Calif., Wednesday, May 7, 2014.

Associated Press

By HOWIE RUMBERG

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Yankees right fielder Carlos Beltran

has a bone spur in his right elbow that could require surgery if a pain-relief shot does not ease the symp-

Yankees OF Beltran has bone spur in elbow

toms.

Beltran was given a Cortisone injection Monday night, shortly after he felt a sharp pain while taking swings in a batting cage during the Yankees' 9-7 loss to the Mets.

"They said that if the Cortisone does the job and I feel no pain, it's no concern at all," Beltran said. "You just hope it goes away. ... I will be disappointed if I have to have the surgery to take it out and miss time."

The eight-time All-Star had an MRI during the game which revealed an old bone spur. Beltran said he

never had pain in the elbow before experiencing it on consecutive practice swings.

It should take two or three days before knowing if the shot has helped, and the Yankees will not make any decision about placing Beltran on the disabled list until then.

Hoping to put off in-season surgery, Beltran asked about having a second shot if the first doesn't work. "You have to give the Cortisone shot a chance to work. It's an old bone spur but it's aggravating his elbow now," manager Joe

Girardi said. "If in a couple days he doesn't feel better, my level of concern will be pretty high."

Even if Beltran can play with the spur, he said he would likely need offseason surgery.

The 37-year-old Beltran was hitting .240 with five homers and 15 RBIs in his first season with the Yankees.

Girardi was without 40-year-old backup outfielder Ichiro Suzuki for the second straight night because of a lower back injury he sustained trying to make a sliding catch Sunday in Milwaukee. □

LeBron scores 49, Heat take 3-1 lead over Nets

NEW YORK (AP) — LeBron James equaled his playoff career high with 49 points and Chris Bosh made the tiebreaking 3-pointer with 57 seconds left as the Miami Heat beat the Brooklyn Nets 102-96 on Monday for a 3-1 lead in the Eastern Conference semifinals. Later, Damian Lillard scored 25 points as the Portland Trail Blazers staved off elimination in the Western Conference semifinals with a 103-92 victory over the San Antonio Spurs. James carried the Heat nearly the entire way until Bosh hit the shot that put Miami ahead for good. Ray Allen followed with four free throws and James finished it off with one more, putting the Heat in position to wrap it up at home Wednesday in Game 5. James was 16 of 24 from the field and 14 of 19 from the free throw line in matching the 49 points he scored for

Cleveland against Orlando in the 2009 Eastern Conference finals. He missed his second free throw with 1.1 seconds left, muttering to himself after it fell out. Joe Johnson scored 18 points for the Nets, who were 15 of 25 from 3-point range in their Game 3 victory but only 5 of 22 in this one. Paul Pierce scored 16 points, while Deron Williams and Shaun Livingston each had 13. Dwyane Wade scored 15 points on the night his Heat postseason record of 46 points was shattered. Bosh finished with 12. Miami pulled out a thrilling victory in a game neither team led by double digits and has won at least one road game in 14 straight series, breaking the record set by the Chicago Bulls from 1991-94. At Portland, Oregon, Nicolas Batum had 14 points, 14 rebounds and eight assists to cut San Antonio's ad-

vantage in the series to 3-1. Portland held Tony Parker to 14 points after he had scored 29 points or more in three of his last four playoff games. Coach Gregg Popovich sat Parker and Tim Duncan after Portland built a 20-point lead in the final quarter. The Spurs are looking to head to the conference finals for the third straight season. Game 5 is Wednesday night in San Antonio. No team has ever lost a seven-game NBA playoff series after going up 3-0. The Blazers were the last team to take a series to seven games after drop-



Miami Heat center Chris Bosh (1) and Brooklyn Nets center Kevin Garnett (2) watch Bosh's tie-breaking three-point shot with 57 seconds on the clock in the fourth quarter of Game 4 of a second-round NBA playoff basketball game at the Barclays Center, Monday, May 12, 2014, in New York.

Associated Press

ping the first three. Portland rebounded in the first round against Dallas in 2003 but ultimately lost the first-round series' deciding game. □

Federer won't change schedule as his family grows



Roger Federer of Switzerland listens to reporters' questions during a press conference at the Italian Open tennis tournament, in Rome, Tuesday, May 13, 2014.

Associated Press

ANDREW DAMPF
AP Sports Writer

ROME (AP) — Roger Federer's decision to return to tennis a week after the birth of his second set of twins has the full support of his wife Mirka. And don't expect his schedule to change much now that he has four kids. When the boys were born earlier than expected, Federer consulted with his

wife and team about playing the Italian Open. "And they all said I should quickly come and play here. So I was like, 'OK, if you don't want me around I'll go away,'" Federer recounted Tuesday. "That was basically it. "Things went well, the boys are healthy. Mirka's good, too," the 17-time Grand Slam champion added. "So it's a great time in our

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Continued from Page 17

Order was quickly restored before anyone blatantly shoved each other, and no punches were thrown. Norris (2-3) was ultimately ejected by plate umpire James Hoye. As the right-hander made his way toward the Baltimore dugout, he shouted once more at Hunter, who yelled back.

Joe Nathan got his eighth save, preserving the win for Porcello (6-1).

RANGERS 4, ASTROS 0

HOUSTON (AP) — Colby Lewis threw 5 2-3 shutout innings, and Adrian Beltre and Rougned Odor each homered to lead Texas over Houston.

Lewis (3-2) struck out a season-high eight and allowed seven hits to improve to 4-0 in his career at Minute Maid Park. The right-hander bounced back from a poor outing against Colorado on Wednesday where he allowed seven runs in less than four innings.

Beltre had two hits, including a two-run home run to left in the third. Odor had two hits, including a run-scoring single in the fourth and his first career home run in the sixth — a solo shot into the upper deck in right field — to make it 4-0. Prince Fielder also had two hits.

Brad Peacock (0-4) struck out a career-high 11 but allowed four runs on seven hits in six innings.

ATHLETICS 5, WHITE SOX 4

OAKLAND, California (AP) — Jesse



Toronto Blue Jays starting pitcher Mark Buehrle pitches against the Los Angeles Angels during first inning American League baseball action in Toronto on Monday, May 12, 2014.

Associated Press

Chavez struck out seven batters and came up an inning short of his first career complete game as Oakland held on to beat Chicago for its season-high fifth straight win. Chavez (3-1) gave up five hits and walked two. He allowed only solo home runs to Dayan Viciedo and Jose Abreu, whose major-league leading 14th long ball in the ninth chased the right-hander.

Josh Donaldson hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the fifth for Oakland, and Josh Reddick hit a tying triple in the second off John Danks (3-3). Jed Lowrie added a two-run double in the seventh that proved pivotal after the White Sox scored three runs in the ninth.

Left-hander Sean Doolittle recorded the final three outs for his second save.

MARINERS 12, RAYS 5

SEATTLE (AP) — Felix Hernandez got plenty of run support as Seattle topped Tampa Bay after hitting two early drives off the top of the wall, requiring video reviews on consecutive batters.

James Jones doubled, singled and scored in each of the first three innings as the Mariners took a 9-0 lead. Robinson Cano drove in two runs and Hernandez (4-1) cruised to the win.

The rare back-to-back replays came in the first inning as Cano and then Corey Hart both barely

missed home runs on flys that hit the yellow line atop the fence and bounced back. Umpires ruled both balls in play, and their calls were confirmed.

Cano wound up with a double on his drive to left field, Hart was thrown out trying for a double on his shot to right.

INTERLEAGUE

NEW YORK (AP) — Chris Young hit a tiebreaking homer in the eighth inning and Jenrry Mejia provided a jolt after his reluctant move to the bullpen as the previously punchless Mets went deep four times to rally past the Yankees in the Subway Series opener.

Curtis Granderson connected in his return to Yankee Stadium, and the Mets also got long balls from Eric Young Jr. and Travis d'Arnaud while overcoming a pair of three-run deficits. Lumbering first baseman Lucas Duda turned in two spectacular defensive plays, starting a game-ending double play with runners at the corners by making a diving stop of Brian McCann's sharp grounder.

Taking full advantage of the hitter-friendly confines across town, rather than the vast dimensions back home at Citi Field, the Mets hit four home runs in a game for the first time since May 3, 2013, in Atlanta, according to STATS.

In other AL games it was Detroit 4, Baltimore 1; N.Y. Mets 9, N.Y. Yankees 7; Toronto 7, L.A. Angels 3; Texas 4, Houston 0; Oakland 5, Chicago White Sox 4; and Seattle 12, Tampa Bay 5. □



Anaheim Ducks right wing Devante Smith-Pelly, left, scores past Los Angeles Kings goalie Jonathan Quick during the second period in Game 5 of an NHL hockey second-round Stanley Cup playoff series in Anaheim, Calif., Monday, May 12, 2014.

Associated Press

MONTREAL (AP) — Max Pacioretty scored a goal and had an assist in the second period, and Carey Price made 26 saves as the Montreal Canadiens blanked the Boston Bruins 4-0 on Monday to force Game 7 in their Eastern Conference semifinal series.

The series is level at 3-3 going into Game 7 on Wednesday in Boston. In the day's other playoff, Devante Smith-Pelly scored two goals 1:23 apart in the second period as the Anaheim Ducks moved to the brink of the Western Conference finals with a

NHL Roundup Canadiens force Game 7 with 4-0 win over Bruins

4-3 victory over the Los Angeles Kings in Game 5. Pacioretty, who had only one assist in the first five games, scored and set up Thomas Vanek's goal in the second period. Lars Eller scored in the first for Montreal and Vanek added his second of the game into an empty net with 3:56 left. Rookie Nathan Beaulieu, the Canadiens' 2011 first-round draft pick who was given a surprise start by coach Michel Therrien, picked up an assist in his first NHL playoff game and was plus-2. The Canadiens repeated the scenario of their

2011 first-round series against the Bruins, winning at home to force a Game 7. That year, they lost Game 7 in overtime. The Bruins went on to win the Stanley Cup.

At Anaheim, California, John Gibson made 39 saves in his second career playoff start as the Ducks took a 3-2 lead in the second-round series with their third straight victory.

Nick Bonino and Jakob Silfverberg also scored for the Ducks, who jumped to a three-goal lead in the second period and hung on behind their 20-year-old rookie

goalie, earning the first home victory by either team in the series.

Marian Gaborik scored two goals for the Kings, who will face their fifth elimination game of the postseason.

Game 6 is Wednesday at Staples Center.

Gaborik scored his NHL-best seventh and eighth goals of the postseason, including a redirection with 5:48 left to trim Anaheim's lead to one goal. Los Angeles pressed throughout the final minutes with a playoff-high 42 shots, but couldn't beat Gibson for the equalizer. □



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Djokovic returns from injury with win in Rome

ANDREW DAMPF
AP Sports Writer

ROME (AP) — Novak Djokovic marked his return from a right wrist injury by beating Czech veteran Radek Stepanek 6-3, 7-5 in the second round of the Italian Open on Tuesday, while Italian hope Andreas Seppi complained about a decisive time violation in a loss to Tommy Haas. With both new coach Boris Becker and long-time adviser Marian Vajda on hand, Djokovic showed no signs of pain after withdrawing from last week's Madrid Open. The second-ranked Serb's only trouble came as he attempted to close the match out, dropping his serve twice late in the second set before eventually finishing it off. "I expected to be a little bit rusty on the court, the conditions didn't help, but generally it was a good win," Djokovic said, alluding to

the swirling wind inside the Foro Italico stadium. "I'm happy with that and hope to elevate my performance in the next one." Djokovic, a two-time Rome champion, committed just nine unforced errors to Stepanek's 27. It was a sharp contrast from Djokovic's last match, when he lost to Roger Federer in the Monte Carlo Masters semifinals last month, when he had his wrist heavily strapped and was unable to serve or return at his usual level.

Also advancing was Australian Open champion Stanislas Wawrinka, who routed Spanish qualifier Pere Riba 6-0, 6-3. In first-round action, the 15th-seeded Haas overcame Seppi 6-1, 4-6, 6-3. The 34th-ranked Seppi couldn't believe it when he received his second time violation while serving at 3-3, 30-40 in the third set,

following his first serve. The second violation results in a serve being taken away, which meant a double fault for Seppi and he then went on to lose the final three games.

"I've never received a time violation in my life," he said. "I was just waiting because the fans were making a bit of noise. ... It's scandalous. ... And the first one was for nothing, too. (Haas) hit a drop shot and I had to walk back to get the balls. It was really uncalled for." In first-round women's play, Italian wild-card entry Camila Giorgi upset ninth-seeded Dominika Cibulkova 6-4, 7-6 (2) in a match delayed briefly due to rain; 10th-seeded Sara Errani of Italy eliminated Chanelle Scheepers of South Africa 7-5, 6-3; and 13th-seeded Carla Suarez Navarro eased past Mona Barthel 6-2, 6-2. There was also an upset in



Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns the ball to Radek Stepanek of Czech Republic at the Italian Open tennis tournament, in Rome, Tuesday, May 13, 2014.

Associated Press

the second round, as Petra Cetkovska of the Czech Republic rallied past seventh-seeded Angelique Kerber 4-6, 6-3, 6-4. The 22-year-old Giorgi, who reached the round of 16 at the U.S. Open last year as a qualifier, showed off her attacking game, stepping into the court to whip winners into the corners at ev-

ery opportunity. Making her Rome main-draw debut, Giorgi had loud support on the picturesque Pietrangeli court, which is lined with neo-classical statues. "The pressure is positive. It's great that the fans come to see you," Giorgi said. "Playing at home happens only once per year."

Nacer Bouhanni wins 4th Giro stage Matthews keeps lead

BARI, Italy (AP) — French rider Nacer Bouhanni won the slippery fourth stage of the Giro d'Italia in a sprint Tuesday as the race returned home after opening with three legs in Northern Ireland and Ireland. Australian rider Michael Matthews retained the overall leader's pink jersey, with organizers deciding to clock the official times with one lap to go of a circuit in the southern city of Bari because of the rain-slicked road. Still, there were several falls on the final turns. Bouhanni didn't have many established sprint rivals to

contend with at the end and clocked nearly 2 1/2 hours over the flat 112-kilometer (70-mile) route from Giovinazzo to Bari — the shortest stage of the three-week race. It was the sixth win this year and the 26th career victory for Bouhanni, who rides for the FDJ.fr team. Giacomo Nizzolo of Italy crossed second and Tom Veelers of the Netherlands was third. Matthews — whose Orica-GreenEdge team won Friday's opening team time trial — leads Italian veteran Alessandro Petacchi by eight seconds. The neutralization was de-

manded by the riders midway through the stage, as they completed eight laps of the finishing circuit. "It was just way too slippery," Matthews said. "So we decided together with all of the GC (general classification) riders to neutralize." The race sees its first bits of uphill action in stage 5 on Wednesday, a 203-kilometer (126-mile) leg from Taranto to Viggiano that concludes with a mild 5-kilometer (3-mile) climb. The Giro ends in Trieste on June 1.



France's Nacer Bouhanni celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the fourth stage of the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy cycling race, from Giovinazzo to Bari, Italy, Tuesday May 13, 2014.

Associated Press



- By, Dr. Carlos Viana

Feed Your Bones

Matter comes in three states: solid, liquid and gas. Stop and think about glass and bones. Are they solid, liquid or gas? Which did you pick? If you choose solid for both, you are technically incorrect. We hear the objections screaming in your brains. Hold on; expand your reality of what you perceive.

Glass is technically a liquid much like water. So why does glass not behave like water? The answer is in the temperature. At ten below zero water flows nowhere; at a thousand degrees glass flows easily. Believe it or not, even at ambient temperatures, glass, pulled by the forces of gravity, flows ever so slowly down. There are old castles whose glass panes have flowed down so the bottom of the pane is much thicker than the paper thin top. Glass, your see, is a liquid that is solid or "frozen" at ambient temperatures.

What about breaking glass? Glass at ambient temperature, if forced too much will shatter into sharp pieces. Automobile "safety" glass is two panes of glass melted together with an inner core of plastic to make it more flexible, or shatter-proof. Automobile glass takes more force before breaking into dull pieces.

Bones are more fluid than solid. Ask any orthodontist who uses braces to rearrange

and straighten teeth. With time and constant pressure, teeth imbedded in solid bone jaws will slowly flow into a new space. Most of our calcium is found in bones and teeth. People require calcium daily. When there is a deficiency of calcium in the body, these nutrients are "borrowed" from our bones and teeth.

Our skeleton, which serves as our structural support, is actually constantly changing, maximizing strength and minimizing its mass to meet our physiological needs. Osteoporosis is a condition characterized by a loss of calcium and other minerals from the bones, making them more porous and brittle. Porous and brittle bones are more susceptible to break and fracture. People, aware that osteoporosis has become a big problem in developing countries, supplement with calcium and vitamin D for prevention.

Most physicians assume that the way to treat osteoporosis is to prescribe calcium. Years ago I predicted this assumption would come back to haunt the medical profession. The negative consequences of calcium supplementation are finally being realized and medical researchers now know that their assumptions have made bone problems worse.

Calcium supplements can raise heart risks in postmenopausal women. In the United States a prescription medication that has calcium and vitamin D that has been used by nearly 10 million people to help prevent or treat bone loss or osteoporosis, has been linked to 2,400 incidents of jaw bone decay or Osteonecrosis of the jaw. Additional people taking these drugs have claimed to have such debilitating pain that they

have become bedridden or in need of walkers, crutches or wheelchairs.

Understanding this over simplification of bone density and calcium, I have developed a treatment approach in our clinic, using my biocompatible medical protocol. The first thing is to slow down the loss of calcium. Medicines that stimulate the thyroid and adrenal glands, as well as prolonged use of cortisone greatly affect calcium status. Steroids and artificial hormones, besides increasing your risk for some cancers, do not treat your bones well. Additionally, there are drugs that interfere with calcium absorption. Drugs used to decrease seizures and many stomach medicines prevent calcium absorption.

Operations to stomach or intestines; removal of gallbladders; kidney disease; diabetes; and alcoholism all contribute to poor calcium absorption. Perhaps the biggest enemy to bone loss is cigarette smoking. These problems need to be corrected to stop mineral loss from your bones.

The second part of our protocol is to encourage the bones to become more flexible. Why do baby bones not break? They are not strong but they are flexible. Remember brittle glass shatters? Similarly, brittle bones shatter. Too much calcium in the bones makes them hard and brittle. The current test for osteoporosis, a bone-scan gives us your bone density. Bone density does not show flexibility. Thick, dense, but brittle bones will shatter and break easily.

We begin by replacing not just calcium, but all the minerals needed by your bones. There are two ways to accomplish this. The first is to feed your body the minerals. Magnesium helps main-

tain normal muscle and nerve function, keeps heart rhythm steady, supports a healthy immune system, and keeps bones strong. Nutritionists know that, magnesium regulates calcium transportation in the body. New studies show that magnesium therapy appears to prevent fractures and results in a significant increase in bone density in menopausal women.

One of our ways to feed your bones is **BONE SOUP**: Use beef, chicken, turkey or fish, all animal bones are full of collagen important for strong healthy bones. Fill a large pot half way with any kind of bones, include a little meat. (Do NOT use Pork. Pork is NOT on any healthy diet!) Fill the other half with vegetables, especially a lot of parsley. Do NOT use potatoes, tomatoes or eggplant. Add 2 teaspoons of vinegar or half a cup of wine. Fill with water and boil vigorously for 3 hours. Keep only the broth. Add a package of un-flavored gelatin. Drink at least a cup a day alone or use a stock to cook with or add fresh vegetables to make soup.

Avoid acid forming foods; these cause your body to pull calcium out of your bones. Sugars, simple carbohydrates and processed foods are acid forming. Exercise in moderation is good for you. Excessive exercise can remove calcium from your bones. For joggers, running shoes are recommended to protect you from shin splints and knee problems. However, bones need to be stressed to be strong. Wearing shoes that absorb ALL stress is not good. Impact stimulates the flow of minerals for your bones.

Another thing you can do to force your bones to become stronger is grow

muscles. Muscles control bone production better than calcium supplementation. When muscles become bigger and stronger through exercise, the attached bone grows to support the musculature.

Get the point! Your bones are alive. Drinking milk for your bone health is a myth that has no medical basis. Your skeleton is your body's support; our clinic is your health support. Do you want to protect your bones from osteoporosis? Come in so we can teach you how to take care and feed your bones naturally.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph.D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

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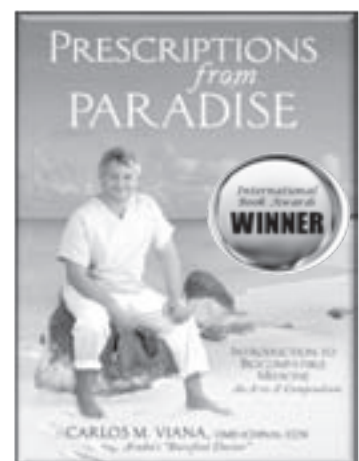
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The doctor's in _ through webcam, smartphone

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mark Matulaitis holds out his arms so the Parkinson's specialist can check his tremors. But this is no doctor's office: Matulaitis sits in his rural U.S. home as a neurologist a few hundred miles away examines him via the camera in his laptop.

Welcome to the virtual house call, the latest twist on telemedicine. It's increasingly getting attention in the United States as a way to conveniently diagnose simple maladies, such as whether that runny nose and cough is a cold or the flu. One company even offers a smartphone app that lets tech-savvy consumers connect to a doctor for \$49 a visit.

Now patient groups and technology advocates are pushing to expand the digital care to people with complex chronic diseases that make a doctor's trip more than just an inconvenience.

"Why can't we provide care to people wherever they are?" asks Dr. Ray Dorsey, a neurologist at the University of Rochester Medical Center who is leading a national study of video visits for Parkinson's patients and sees broader appeal.

"Think of taking your mom with Alzheimer's to a big

urban medical center. Just getting through the parking lot they're disoriented," he adds. "That's the standard of care but is it what we should be doing?"

There are hurdles: Medicare, the U.S. government health program for the elderly, covers some forms of telehealth, it doesn't typically pay for in-home video exams. Plus, doctors who practice by video-chat must be licensed in whatever states their long-distance patients live. Some states restrict the kind of care and prescribing available via telemedicine.

About 40 percent of Parkinson's patients in the U.S. don't see a specialist, in part because they live too far away, even though research suggests those who do fare better, according to the Parkinson's Action Network.

When Matulaitis, of Maryland state, first was diagnosed in 2011, his wife had to take a day off work to drive him more than two hours to a Parkinson's clinic. Once he was stabilized on medication, Dorsey enrolled him in a pilot study of video house calls. The setup was simple: The doctor emailed a link to video software designed for patient privacy.

He's thrilled with the care.



This photo taken May 8, 2014 shows Mark Matulaitis posing with his laptop that he uses for virtual house calls with his neurologist in his home in Salisbury, Md. Matulaitis has had Parkinson's disease since 2011 and sees a neurologist at the University of Rochester via his laptop and special Skype-like software.

Associated Press

"It's just the same as if you've ever done FaceTime on an iPhone," explained Matulaitis, 59, who continues his virtual checkups with Dorsey a few times a year. "It allows the doctor to see the patient at a point where they are at their best."

Telemedicine is broader than a Skype-like doctor visit. For years, doctors have delivered different forms of care remotely, from the old-fashioned phone

call to at-home monitors that measure someone's blood pressure and beam the information to a clinic. Hospitals routinely set up on-site video consultations with specialists. But the virtual house call is gaining interest. Some insurers offer versions, such as Wellpoint Inc.'s LiveHealth Online service. Telemedicine provider American Well is making headlines with its direct-to-consumer service, offered in 44 states. Psychiatrists are exploring mental health follow-up counseling from the privacy of a patient's home computer.

New guidelines from the Federation of State Medical Boards say telemedicine can be OK without a prior in-person visit, a change expected to influence licensing regulations in a number of states, said federation president Dr. Humayun Chaudhry. The guidelines hold virtual visits to the same standards as an office visit, including a full medical history and informed consent, and say patients should be able to choose among participating doctors. The group also is finalizing a plan to make it easier for doctors to practice across state lines.

But does a virtual exam translate into better outcomes for the chronically

ill?

"There's an evidence gap that needs to be filled," said Romana Hasnain-Wynia of the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, an agency created under the new health care law to study which medical treatments and procedures work best.

With a \$1.7 million grant from PCORI, Dorsey's study is randomly assigning about 200 Parkinson's patients from around the country to receive either their usual care or added virtual checkups from a specialist. His pilot studies have suggested telemedicine allows needed care such as medication adjustments while saving patients time. As for people seeking even a seemingly simple diagnosis, there are other questions such as how to avoid overprescribing antibiotics. Yes, a smartphone camera may spot signs of strep throat. But national guidelines urge a strep test before giving antibiotics, to be sure a virus isn't to blame. "You have to be a touch more thoughtful when you're talking about new patient relationships," said Dr. Joseph Kvedar of the Center for Connected Health, a division of Boston's Partners Healthcare. □

Microsoft unbundles Kinect from Xbox One

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In a move to spur sales of the Xbox One and catch up with rival Sony's PlayStation 4, Microsoft Corp. said Tuesday it will start selling the console without the Kinect sensor, which cuts \$100 from the price.

The new price of \$399 begins June 9.

Microsoft says it is also allowing entertainment apps like Netflix to be used on both the Xbox One and the older Xbox 360 console without having to pay for an Xbox Live Gold membership, which costs \$60 a year.

The membership will continue to be required for multiplayer game mode, but it will also provide discounts on games and free games.

Phil Spencer, who was named head of Xbox in March, said unbundling Kinect was important to reaching more fans.

"Value is important," he said in an interview.

"Making sure you have an opening price point that can reach as many people as possible is critical."

Kinect is an accessory that detects motion and allows users to control the console

using their voice.

Microsoft said last month that sales of Xbox One had slowed to 1.2 million in the quarter through March, compared to the 3.9 million it sold in the holiday quarter. The total of 5.1 million was behind Sony's 7 million in sales of the PS4. Both launched in November.

Spencer added that it no longer made sense to reserve apps such as Netflix and YouTube to paying subscribers since such apps are widely available on DVD players and other Internet-connected devices. □

S&P 500 flirts with 1,900, but ends the day short

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Standard & Poor's 500 index is flirting with a new milestone: 1,900.

The index briefly climbed above that level on Tuesday before dropping back to close just below it. Still, it set an all-time closing high by a fraction of point.

Stocks have gained as most investors remain optimistic that the economy will start to accelerate this year following a cold winter that stymied growth. First-quarter corporate earnings came in better than expected, giving stocks a lift.

Whether the S&P 500 climbs beyond the 1,900 level or falls back now depends on the how the economy develops, said John Canally, chief market strategist for LPL Financial. If growth falters, stocks will likely slide, he said.

"But if the economy can deliver ... and the global

economy can accelerate, we'll look back at 1,900 and say 'Yes that was just a stop on the way to 2,000,'" he said.

On Tuesday, the Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 0.8 points, or less than 0.1 percent, to 1,897.45, after climbing as high as 1,902 in early trading. The index first closed above 1,800 on Nov. 22.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 19.97 points, or 0.1 percent, to 16,715.44. The Nasdaq composite was the laggard of the three. The technology-focused index fell 13.7 points, or 0.3 percent, to 4,130.17.

Keurig Green Mountain was the biggest gainer in the S&P 500 index. Its stock surged \$8.36, or 7.6 percent, to \$119.07 after Coca-Cola raised its stake in the coffee company. Coca-Cola, the world's biggest beverage company, disclosed in a regulatory filing that a subsidiary now has a 16 percent stake in

Keurig.

Investors were also assessing corporate earnings.

McKesson jumped \$5.77, or 3.3 percent, to \$180 after the prescription drug distributor said Monday its net

income rose 43 percent in its fiscal fourth quarter. Its overall earnings got a boost from stronger results in North America and lower costs.

Beauty products company

Elizabeth Arden plunged \$8.13, or 23 percent, to \$27.50 after it reported an unexpected quarterly loss and disclosed it has hired Goldman Sachs to help it explore strategic alterna-



Trader Kenneth Polcari, center, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Tuesday, May 13, 2014. The Standard & Poor's 500 index crossed above 1,900 for the first time Tuesday as investors assessed news on retail sales. DirecTV gained on reports that the AT&T is poised to buy the company for nearly \$50 billion. (AP Photo)

US businesses boosted stockpiles 0.4% in March

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. businesses increased their stockpiles in March, and sales increased by the largest amount in 10 months.

February.

Both months represented a solid rebound after a 0.9 percent sales decline in January that was blamed in part on the harsh winter

duction, which would lead to stronger economic growth.

Many economists expect growth to rebound significantly in the second quar-

tail level were unchanged. In the January-March quarter, the economy slowed to a lackluster annual growth rate of 0.1 percent, a slump that economists have attributed mainly to severe winter weather. A slowdown in inventory building subtracted 0.6 percentage point from first-quarter growth. Economists think the drag from slower stockpiling is easing in the second quarter as businesses respond to stronger sales.

Many analysts think annual growth will be 3 percent or higher in the April-June period. In a separate report Tuesday, the government said retail sales rose just 0.1 percent in April, less than expected. But that followed a 1.5 percent surge in March.

Economists are forecasting that annual growth will hold around 3 percent in the second half of the year. That pace could provide the strongest growth for the overall year since 2005, two years before the Great Recession hit. □

tives.

Overall, though, first-quarter earnings have come in better than analysts expected.

Nearly all companies in the S&P 500 have reported results, and earnings are forecast to grow by 3.3 percent when final figures are calculated, according to S&P Capital IQ data. Three weeks ago, analysts were expecting earnings to fall 1.1 percent.

Another encouraging sign was that company revenue growth accelerated in the quarter to 3.2 percent, from 1.6 percent in the fourth quarter.

Despite the positive backdrop, the stock market's move higher this year has been more of a grind compared with last year's surge. Along with worries about the U.S., there are concerns about growth overseas, as well as tensions with Russia after that country annexed the Crimea region in Ukraine.

Another factor is that stocks, having rallied for more than five years, are also no longer the bargain they once were. □



Earth-moving and construction equipment is stored on a lot at the Highway Equipment Company in Zellenople, Pa. The Commerce Department released positive business inventory data for March on Tuesday, May 13, 2014. (AP Photo/Keith Srakocic)

Stockpiles rose 0.4 percent after a 0.5 percent rise in February, the Commerce Department said Tuesday. Sales in March jumped 1 percent, the largest advance since May, after a 0.9 percent increase in

weather.

The two months of sizable gains in sales should encourage businesses to keep restocking to meet rising demand. That would mean increased orders to factories and rising pro-

ter after slowing sharply in the first.

Inventories held by wholesalers increased 1.1 percent in March, while those held by manufacturers edged up a tiny 0.1 percent. Inventories at the re-

BlackBerry launches new smartphone for Indonesia

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — BlackBerry launched a new lower-cost smartphone designed specifically for Indonesia on Tuesday in an attempt to win back market share that has plunged in recent years but remains higher than in many other nations.

The BlackBerry Z3, Jakarta Edition, was launched at a glitzy hotel in the capital, Jakarta. The company said it will go on sale Thursday for \$191, considerably less than its higher-priced Z10 and Q10 devices. Analysts say the lack of a lower-priced phone has hurt BlackBerry in Indone-

sia. The phone is the first to be launched under new BlackBerry Ltd. Chief Executive John Chen, who took the helm late last year.

"The Jakarta Edition was designed specifically with our Indonesian customers in mind," Chen said in a statement. It has a 5-inch

screen and includes Indonesian apps and content. Although it is designed for Indonesia, BlackBerry hopes to eventually sell the phone in six other Asia countries, including Malaysia, Vietnam, India and the Philippines.

BlackBerry once dominated the smartphone mar-

ket in Indonesia, but has struggled in recent years amid increased competition from rivals such as Apple and Samsung.

Indonesia, a nation of 240 million people with Southeast Asia's largest economy, has experienced a tech boom in recent years. □

Valeant Pharma plans improved offer for Allergan

The Associated Press

Valeant Pharmaceuticals will not easily accept rejection in its bid to acquire Botox maker Allergan for nearly \$46 billion. A day after Allergan formally turned down the unsolicited offer, Valeant said it will improve that proposal to show its commitment to getting a deal done.

"We are prepared to pay a full and fair price, but consistent with our track record, we will remain financially disciplined," Valeant Chairman and CEO Michael Pearson said Tuesday in a letter to Allergan Inc. shareholders.

Valeant Pharmaceuticals International Inc. plans a May 28 webcast to discuss why it believes its proposal is better than Allergan's plan to remain a stand-alone company. Allergan, based in Irvine, California, hosted its own conference call on Monday and spent more than an hour detailing its growth prospects.

Allergan said that Valeant's uncertain long-term growth prospects and business model create a risk for Allergan shareholders, especially given the stock component of the offer. It also

questioned in a letter to Pearson Valeant's cost-cutting plans and whether that would harm the long term viability of its

business. It noted that Allergan rejected its bid without discussing it with Valeant.

"On the call, we will discuss why our proposal

sets under Valeant's operating model," Pearson wrote in Tuesday's letter. Last month, the Canadian drugmaker and ac-

tion of Valeant's stock.

Allergan stockholders would own 43 percent of the combined company under that proposal.

Ackman's Pershing Square Capital Management LP, Allergan's largest shareholder with a 9.7 percent stake, agreed to take only stock if the deal went through. It would remain as a long-term shareholder of the combined company.

Shortly after Valeant and Ackman made their offer public, Allergan announced a so-called poison pill plan, a defensive tactic that makes a buyout prohibitively expensive. Allergan also told Valeant that it didn't want to discuss a tie-up, but said that it would evaluate the offer.

Credit Suisse analyst Dr. Vamil Divan said in a research note he expected Valeant to make a more compelling offer to convince most Allergan shareholders "to accept the short-term gains and certainty that the deal provides over the steady long-term share price appreciation that (Allergan) is proposing."

Allergan shares were up more than 2 percent to \$161.83 shortly before markets opened. □



William Ackman, of Pershing Square Capital Management, speaks in Toronto. It was announced this week that Botox maker Allergan is rejecting a takeover bid from Valeant Pharmaceuticals, saying that the unsolicited bid worth nearly \$46 billion undervalues the company and carries significant risk. Shortly after Canada's Valeant and activist investor Ackman made their offer public last month, Allergan announced a so-called poison pill plan, a defensive tactic that makes a buyout prohibitively expensive.

(AP Photo/Pawel Dwulit)

business.

Valeant promised to address concerns raised by Allergan on its own call.

offers greater short, intermediate, and long-term shareholder value by managing Allergan's as-

activist investor Bill Ackman proposed exchanging each Allergan share for \$48.30 in cash and a por-

Airbus plane orders down in Q1, profits up

PARIS (AP) — Airbus Group said Tuesday that orders for its jets slumped in the first quarter, but profits rose and it hopes to put its A350 long-range jet into service by the end of the year.

The European plane maker, Boeing's chief rival, said in a statement that it took

in 103 orders in the quarter, worth 21.1 billion euros (US\$28.9 billion). That is down from 410 orders in the first quarter of 2013.

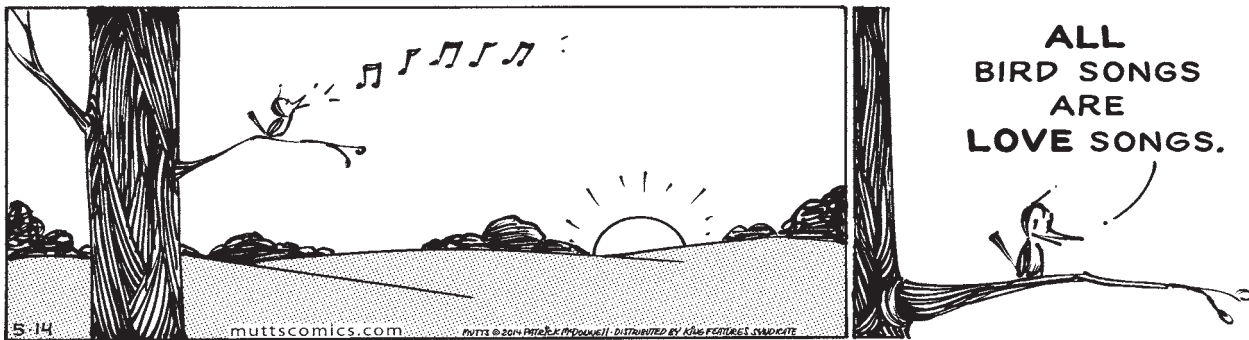
CEO Tom Enders said Airbus isn't changing its 2014 outlook, which predicts a stable year compared to 2013. But he said the com-

pany faces "many challenges" and is focusing on "improvement and restructuring plans." The group, formerly known as EADS, confirmed plans for 5,800 job cuts as it restructures its defense and space business, Chief Financial Officer Harald Wilhelm said.

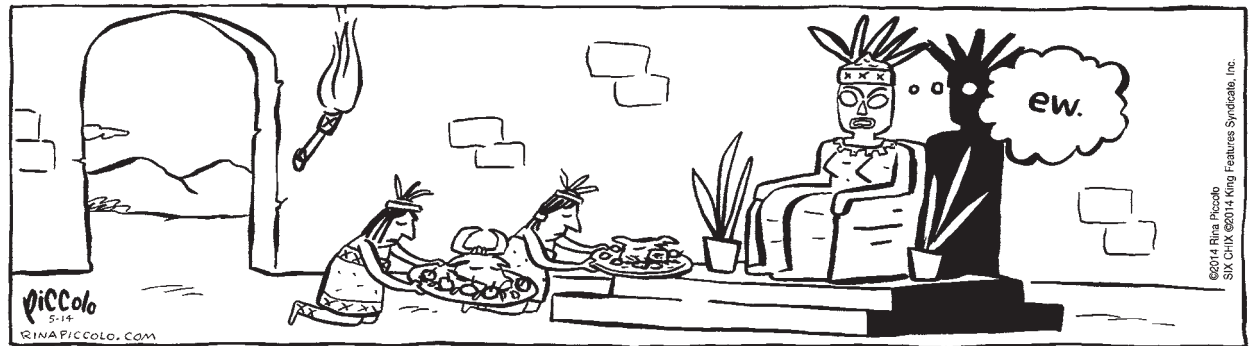
The company saw overall sales up 5 percent to 12.6 billion euros in the first quarter, from 12.1 billion euros in the same quarter a year ago. Profits nearly doubled to 439 million euros in the quarter. Aircraft deliveries were down slightly in the quarter to 141 from 144

last year. Airbus is pinning hopes on success for the A350, a competitor to Boeing's 787, and said Tuesday the A350 should complete certification in the third quarter. After years of delays and cost overruns, Wilhelm said the program is in a "critical phase." □

Mutts



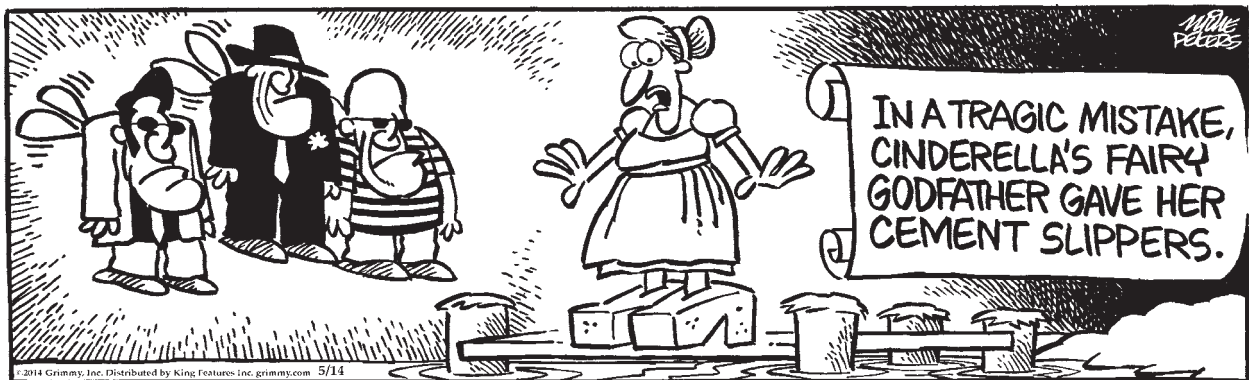
6 Chix



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Conceptis Sudoku

		5	7	6	2			
			5			3		
9		7					2	
6	9				5			3
	1						4	
5	7	4						8
3	2		8				6	
8				4	7	9		
			3	1				

Difficulty Level ★★★

5/14

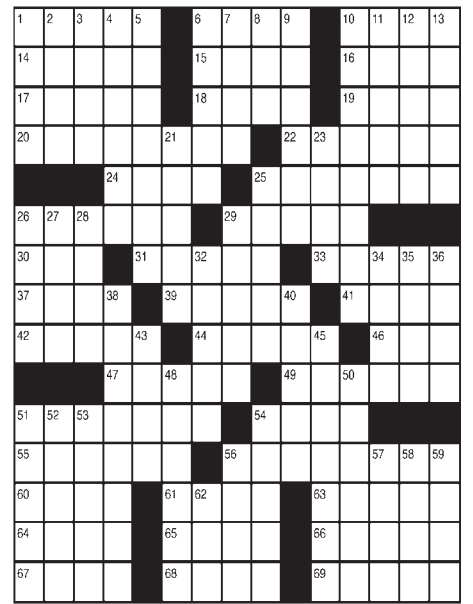
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

9	6	5	3	1	2	7	4	8
4	8	7	5	9	6	3	2	1
1	3	2	4	7	8	5	6	9
6	5	1	9	8	7	4	3	2
3	4	8	2	6	5	1	9	7
7	2	9	1	3	4	6	8	5
5	9	6	7	2	3	8	1	4
2	7	3	8	4	1	9	5	6
8	1	4	6	5	9	2	7	3

ACROSS

- 1 ___ nerve; part of the eye
6 Sitting on
10 Face, slangily
14 One of the Judds
15 Smokey or Yogi
16 Lie next to
17 Burst forth
18 Cookie recipe verb
19 Ripped
20 One who dashes in his birthday suit
22 Hunt for food
24 June 6, 1944
25 Restricted
26 Wall or Easy
29 Poisonous
30 Edgar Allan ___
31 Suspicious
33 Wedding cake layers
37 Provo's state
39 Sully, as someone's reputation
41 Zone
42 Train station
44 Hay bundles
46 Four qts.
47 Cherished
49 Prior to
51 Shake with fear
54 Relinquish
55 Tough cord of bodily tissue
56 Thin thread
60 Additionally
61 Frosted
63 Forbidden
64 Murdered
65 Pigeon coop
66 Arm joint
67 Brass instrument
68 Water jug
69 Classroom furniture



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/14/14

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

ANT	ANGEL	LASH
DUOS	BULGE	ECHO
OMIT	SLUGS	DROP
BLAMELESS	GETS	
SONS	EW	
UPSHOT	CANARIES	
RILES	CARES	SAP
BEES	PACED	MAGI
ACE	ALPHA	DEALT
NEPALESE	PISCES	
TEA	RUES	
MOAT	SPLITTING	
IDLE	ALOFT	EYED
TOSS	NOBLE	REAR
TROT	TWEED	TRY

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5/14/14

- 40 Refuse to obey
43 ___ list; paper full of chores
45 Calmed with Valium, e.g.
48 "City of Canals"
50 Girl or woman
51 Hidden supply
52 "___, Dolly!"
53 Racer car driver Al ___, Jr.
54 Apple drink
56 Celebration
57 Diminishes
58 Cozy recess
59 Hauls behind
62 Milk producer

DOWN

- 1 Dollar bills
2 Role
3 Sightseeing trip
4 Slow the progress of
5 Fortress
6 Monastery
7 Drop of joy or sorrow
8 Furniture wood
9 First part of a word, often
10 Actress Heaton
11 German sub
12 Sudden increase
13 Lively horse
21 Middleton and Winslet
23 Leave out
25 Faithful
26 Tater
27 Carry
28 Gather crops
29 ___ on; trample
32 Glowing coal fragment
34 Consequently
35 Bring up, as children
36 Store event
38 ___ the fort; take care of things while others are away

Fla man pleads guilty in bitcoins-for-drugs buy

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — A southwest Florida man pleaded guilty to using bitcoins to buy a massive amount of drugs via the now-shuttered Silk Road website, federal authorities said Tuesday.

Thirty-four-year-old Angel Quinones imported at least 9,193 grams of MDMA, also known as Ecstasy, from a Dutch supplier between 2012 and 2013, with the intention of selling it in the U.S., according to a news release from the U.S. Attorney's Office in Tampa. He was one of the largest wholesale re-distributors of illegal drugs on the Silk Road black market website in the United States, the release said.

Cornelis Jan Slomp, 23, sold Quinones wholesale quantities of MDMA on credit in 2012, and then Quinones sold the drugs via Silk Road and split the proceeds with Slomp, authorities said in the news release. Quinones used several post office boxes throughout southwest Florida to ship and receive the drugs, they said.

The authorities added that Slomp sent Quinones bitcoins generated from Silk Road drug transactions to be converted into cash. □

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Wandering Oregon wolf may have found a mate

MEDFORD, Oregon (AP) —

Oregon's famous wandering gray wolf, OR-7, may have found the mate he has trekked thousands of miles (kilometers) looking for, wildlife authorities said Monday. It's likely the pair spawned pups, and if confirmed, the rare predators would be the first breeding pair of wolves in the north-western state's Cascade Range since the early 1900s.

Officials said cameras in the southern Cascades captured several images of what appears to be a female wolf in the same area where OR-7's GPS collar shows he has been living.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist John Stephenson said it is not proof, but it is likely the two wolves mated over the winter and are rearing pups that would have been born in April. Biologists won't start looking for a den until June, to avoid endangering the pups.

"It's amazing that he appears to have found a mate," Stephenson said. "I didn't think it would happen. It makes me more impressed with the ability of wolves to survive and find one another."

Young wolves typically leave their pack and strike out for a new territory, hoping to find a mate and start a new pack.

OR-7 has been looking for a mate since leaving the



This remote camera photo taken May 3, 2014 and provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, shows the wolf OR7 in southwest Oregon's Cascade Mountains.

Associated Press

Imnaha pack in northeastern Oregon in September 2011. His travels have taken him thousands of miles (kilometers) as he crossed highways, deserts and ranches in Oregon, moved down the spine of the Cascade Range deep into Northern California and then back to Oregon, all without getting

shot, having an accident or starving. Along the way, he was photographed by a hunter's trail camera in the Cascades outside Medford and by a biologist informing ranchers in Northern California he was in the area. Federal Endangered Species Act protections for wolves have been lifted

in eastern Oregon, where the bulk of them reside, but they remain in force in the Cascades. Protections for the animals have also ended in the last several years in the Northern Rockies and western Great Lakes.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed ending the listing across most

of the rest of the country as populations have rebounded. A final decision is expected later this year.

Officials had planned to let OR-7's GPS collar die, but now that he appears to have found a mate, he will be fitted with a new one this summer to monitor the pack. □

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A 'View' without Barbara Walters after this week

NEW YORK (AP) — When Barbara Walters came on the scene, John Kennedy was in the White House, a motorist could fill 'er up for three bucks and no one had heard of the Beatles. On Friday, capping a spectacular half-century run she began as the so-called "Today" Girl, Walters says goodbye to ABC's "The View."

Behind the scenes she will remain as an executive producer of the New York-based talk show she created 17 years ago, and she'll make ABC News appearances as events warrant and stories catch her eye. "It's not as if I'm walking into the sunset," cautions Walters, who at 84 looks a decade or two younger as she nurses black coffee in her dressing room amid a tireless pace that, in the same breath, she insists will soon be coming to a halt: "I'm NOT going to be doing a five-day-a-week show, and I'm NOT going after every big 'get.'"

On Thursday's "The View," all 11 past and present co-hosts reunite to honor her as she retires from daily television. Hours after her big farewell on Friday's "View" (seen weekdays at 11 a.m. EDT), "Barbara Walters: Her Story" airs as a two-hour retrospective (9 p.m. EDT). "Then on May 17," she pledges, "I'm going to be sleeping until noon. May 18, I'm going to sleep until noon." But what about the day after that? "People ask me, 'How are you gonna feel?' I don't know! It's a new chapter!"

Not just for her. Since the early 1960s, Walter has served as a journalistic throughline for her viewers, an arbiter connecting the dots during five decades of events, newsmakers and stars at NBC's "Today" (from 1961 to 1976), as the first woman co-anchor of ABC's "World News Tonight," on her scores of "big get" specials and a quarter-century co-hosting "20/20."

And she did it after starting out as a "Girl" who crashed the "Mad Man"-esque world of TV news' male

dominance.

Asked to speculate on what might land her name in history books, she cites the "many really wonderful young women now on television. If I helped to pave the way, that's more important than if anyone remembers my name."

"And my longevity on the air," she adds as a backup legacy: "That one can work as long as I've worked, and still be vital — it demonstrates there's no age limit for people."

And there shouldn't be! Walters announced her retirement more than a year ago, and emphasizes it was her choice, motivated because, well, it just seemed time. "But I feel great," she says. "I'm in perfect health. I've got a lot of energy." Not that she dismisses broader implications of this looming new passage awaiting her.

"I'm walking away from a career of 38 years, just at ABC News. So I think, 'What's the next milestone?' The next milestone is DEATH!" A wry laugh. "Oh, thanks a LOT!"

But as Walters' career thus far has made clear, she is nothing if not defiant, with a lifetime spent challenging assumptions and naysayers.

Just ask Bill Geddie, who continues as co-executive producer of "The View" with Walters in a partnership born some 25 years ago.

Back then, Geddie, a former "Good Morning America" producer in his early 30s, had grabbed her offer to produce Walters' prime-time specials — and did it, he recalls, against everyone's advice.

"They said, 'She's got two, maybe three more years. Nobody's gonna watch a woman over 60.'" And he laughs.

"I don't think they realized, even by that time, how driven she was, how good she was, how this was not just a job for her, this was her life."

Geddie acknowledges that now, finally, Walters faces a profound change in her storied life. □



This March 26, 2014 photo provided by ABC shows, co-host Barbara Walters on "The View," in New York. On Friday, May 16, 2014, capping a spectacular half-century run she began as the so-called "Today" Girl, Walters will exit ABC's "The View."

Associated Press

Alec Baldwin arrested in NYC after bike flap



In this Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2013 file photo, actor Alec Baldwin leaves criminal court in New York.

Associated Press

JAKE PEARSON
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Actor Alec Baldwin was arrested and issued two summonses after allegedly acting belligerently toward two officers who had stopped him for riding his bicycle the wrong way down a New York City street, police said Tuesday.

The "30 Rock" star was riding his bike the wrong way

at 16th Street and Fifth Avenue near Union Square Park in Manhattan when he was stopped at about 10:15 a.m. and asked to show identification, they said.

That's when Baldwin, 56, refused to show his ID and acted belligerently, prompting the officers to handcuff him and take him, and his bicycle, to a nearby precinct, they said.

Baldwin was issued two summonses — for riding a bike the wrong way down a street and for disorderly conduct — and was then released, police said.

He is scheduled to appear in Manhattan Criminal Court on the disorderly conduct summons July 24. A representative for Baldwin didn't immediately return a request for comment. But from his verified Twitter account, Baldwin said he'd been handcuffed for riding the wrong way on Fifth Avenue and posted the last name and badge number of the arresting officer.

He also tweeted that photographers outside his home terrified his daughter and disparaged New York City, calling it "a mismanaged carnival of stupidity." The Oscar- and Tony-nominated actor is known for his incendiary temper, most notably exposed when a voice mail of him berating his now-teenage daughter, Ireland Baldwin, came to light in 2007. He later said the message horrified him. □



This May 12, 2014 photo released by The Publicity Office shows Norm Lewis, left, and Sierra Boggess acknowledging applause on the pair's opening night with the Broadway production of *The Phantom of the Opera* at The Majestic Theatre, in New York.

Associated Press

Broadway welcomes its first black 'Phantom' lead

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A thunderous standing ovation congratulated Norm Lewis as he became the first black actor to take on the title role in Broadway's "The Phantom of the Opera."

The Tony Award nominee, who brought his deep and rich voice as Porgy to the recent "Porgy and Bess" revival, made his "Phantom" debut Monday night opposite a returning Sierra Boggess as Christine.

Lewis played John in "Miss Saigon" on Broadway, Javert on Broadway in "Les Misérables" in 2006 and was in the shows "Side Show," "The Little Mermaid," "Chicago" and "Sondheim on Sondheim."

Lewis is the first black Phantom on Broadway, although Robert Guillaume played the role in the Los Angeles production in 1990. Lewis' debut in the musical makes him Broadway's 13th Phantom.

ABC adds 12 new shows, including Viola Davis drama



This March 2, 2014 file photo shows actress Viola Davis at the Oscars in Los Angeles. ABC says it is adding a dozen new series to its schedule next season, including its third drama from producer Shonda Rhimes.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — ABC will add a new drama from "Scandal" and "Grey's Anatomy" powerhouse producer Shonda Rhimes to its schedule in the fall, giving her ownership of Thursday night on a network that's lagging behind its competitors among advertiser-favored young adults.

Rhimes' "How to Get Away With Murder," a legal thriller starring Viola Davis, is among 12 new series that will occupy an ABC schedule that's heavy on crime dramas and rich in ethnic diversity. Rhimes is "one of the greatest voices on tele-

vision," ABC Entertainment Group President Paul Lee said Tuesday before the network presented its new schedule to advertisers.

"Grey's Anatomy" will move to 8 p.m. Thursday, followed by "Scandal" at 9 p.m. "How to Get Away With Murder" will close out the evening at 10 p.m. That will bolster what has been a weak 8 p.m. slot for ABC and give the new drama a strong launching pad, Lee said.

"Scandal" will air opposite NBC's hit series "The Blacklist" later in the new season, but Lee said he's confident his series will stand up to the

challenge, especially as viewers adept at time-shifting have allowed dueling series to both perform well. Medical soap opera "Grey's Anatomy" can be racy, but Lee said it will have appropriate content for the first hour of prime time, traditionally home for more family-friendly programming.

ABC and its heavily female audience ranks third in viewership this season behind CBS and NBC, but is fourth among the 18-to-49-year-old demographic it cares most about. The network, known for its multi-ethnic casts, is adding shows focused primarily on non-white characters or with minority creators — something often missing from major broadcast networks. The new sitcoms include "Black-ish," starring Anthony Anderson and Tracee Ellis Ross as a suburban family trying to embrace their African-American identity, and "Fresh off the Boat," about an immigrant Chinese family pursuing the American dream in the 1990s and based on chef Eddie Huang's memoir with the same title. "Cristela," another comedy, is about an ambitious law student (Cristela Alonzo) at odds with her traditional Mexican-American family. John Ridley of "12 Years a Slave" created the gritty "American Crime," a drama about a murder with racial overtones that features former "Desperate Housewives" star Felicity Huffman.

ABC hits "Modern Family" and "Scandal" have benefited from their inclusivity, Lee said.

"America has changed," he said. "We see that in the election cycle and we see that in everything."

Other new dramas include "Secrets and Lies," starring Ryan Phillippe as a murder suspect trying to prove his innocence, and "Forever," with Ioan Gruffudd as a New York City medical examiner with a secret: He's immortal.



This book cover image released by Simon and Schuster shows "The Possibilities," by Kaui Hart Hemmings.

Associated Press

MICHELLE SCHERAGA
Associated Press

Novel treats heavy subject matter with light touch

In the resort town of Breckenridge, Colorado, Sarah St. John is mourning her son, Cully, who died in an avalanche while snowboarding.

Author Kaui Hart Hemmings demonstrates a light touch with heavy subject matter in "The Possibilities" as Sarah, her father, her friend Suzanne and Cully's father, who had been a summer fling when Sarah was in her 20s, navigate through their loss and a world without Cully, as they learn about the kind of man Cully had

become. Sarah resists sentimental forms of grief, and turns away from what she considers generic support (as when an acquaintance suggests she join Parents Against Avalanche Disaster). While she knows that, three months after Cully's death, it's time to move on, she is reluctant to do so, especially as she learns how little she really knew her son. We feel her loss on every page.

There's a somewhat predictable plot point involving a young woman who

knew Cully showing up on Sarah's doorstep, and it follows a somewhat predictable narrative arc, right up to the point where it deviates elegantly into something more realistic and ultimately more meaningful. I have no doubt that Hemmings knew she was writing a well-worn trope and actively fought against it.

Those who enjoyed Hemmings' debut, "The Descendants" (or the movie directed by Alexander Payne), will find much to like here.

More Chopsticks, Please



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
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HANOI, Vietnam - By an accident of scheduling, I've visited Kiev and Hanoi in the last couple weeks, and it's been accidentally extremely revealing. Ukraine is a middle power living next to a giant bear, and Vietnam is a middle power living next to a giant tiger. Ukraine is struggling with how to deal with a declining Russia that is looking for dignity in all the wrong places - like in Crimea - and Vietnam is struggling with how to deal with a rising China that is looking for oil in all the wrong places - like in Vietnam's territorial waters. Russia's attitude toward Ukraine has been: "Marry me, or I'll kill you." And China's toward Vietnam has been a variation of that line from "There Will Be Blood": "I have a long straw, so I think I'll drink my milkshake and yours."

Meanwhile, America is trying to figure out how to buttress both Vietnam and Ukraine in their struggles with their giant neighbors without getting entangled in either dispute. And in my jet-lagged torpor, all I've been trying to do is make sure I don't order Chicken Kiev in Hanoi and Chicken Spring Rolls in Kiev. Both conflicts tell us a lot about the post-post-Cold War world. Neither Russia's intervention in Ukraine nor China's in Vietnam's territorial waters is based on grand ideology or global aspiration. Both are about regional control, spurred by nationalism and resource competition. Another similarity is that both Russia and China have not engaged in traditional crossborder aggression with their neighbors, choosing instead to operate behind cutouts. Russia used "little green men" in Ukraine - camouflaged pro-Russia gunmen whose identities are unclear - and China deployed a flotilla of 70 civilian vessels and just a few navy ships to the South China Sea. They towed a giant deep-sea drilling rig 130 nautical miles off the coast of Vietnam - well within Vietnam's continental shelf but also in range of the disputed Paracel Islands that China claims are its own and therefore entitle Beijing to control a wide arc of surrounding waters.

Vietnamese TV has been airing an animated re-enactment of the confrontation: When a Vietnamese navy patrol boat challenged a larger Chinese vessel, it rammed the Vietnamese ship, wounding six sailors. Then another Chinese ship used a giant water cannon to shoo away the Vietnamese boats. It's a huge story here in Hanoi. In both cases, Russia and China

used tactics firm enough to get their way but calibrated not to galvanize the international community to react much. China's timing, though, right after President Barack Obama's visit to the region - when he criticized China's expansive maritime claims - seemed to be a squirt gun in his face.

"It has been a real shock for the whole region," Ha Huy Thong, the vice chairman of the foreign affairs committee of the Vietnamese parliament told me. "They use civilian vessels, and then if you attack them they say, 'Why did you attack our civilians?'" But Vietnam has limited options. China "is a rising power. The question is how can we deal with it?" Thong said. "It is not only a violation of our territory but of international law."

The only way to deter such regional powers when they bully one neighbor is with a coalition of all the neighbors. But such coalitions are hard to build when the threat is to just one country, is relatively low level and when the threatening country (China or Russia) controls so much trade to the rest of Asia in the case of China and so much gas to Ukraine and Europe in the case of Russia. "We have a saying in Vietnamese," added Thong: "It's easy to break two chopsticks, but it's very hard to break a bundle of them." Until such a coalition gets built, Vietnam - in an irony of history - finds itself now looking to America for more protection from its historical predator, China.

Le Duy Anh, 24, a lecturer at Hanoi's FPT School of Business (FSB), remarked to me when I visited his campus that whenever China does something to Vietnam these days people go to the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi and demonstrate. For so many years, Vietnamese fought a war with Americans "trying to get you out," he said, "and now we are demonstrating to get you to intervene. We don't want bloodshed, so we need someone to tell someone else to calm down."

So Americans may think we've lost influence in the world, but, the truth is, many people out here want our "presence" more than ever. This is especially true of those living on the borders of Russia and China, who are each sort of half in and half out of today's globalization system - beneficiaries of its trading and investment regimes but revisionists when it comes to playing by all the rules in their own neighborhoods. We may not be so interested in the world, but a lot of the world is still interested in us - and saying: "Yankee come hither" more than "Yankee go home."

We're not going to go to war on either front. And Russia and China also have claims and interests that bear consideration. But if we are to persuade Moscow and Beijing to resolve these border disputes peacefully, not unilaterally, we'll clearly need a few more chopsticks in our bundle. Which is why America's ability to build coalitions is as vital today as the exercise of its own power. □



With Malice Toward Nuns



MAUREEN DOWD
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WASHINGTON - So much for all the cozy hugs and soothing cold calls and fun selfies and humble gestures and talk of mercy, love, inclusion, equality and justice. Pope Francis appears guilty of condoning that most base Vatican sport: bullying nuns. The cool pope suddenly doesn't seem so cool, allowing Rome's grand inquisitors to torque up the derogation this Mother's Day of the American sisters who have mothered so many - even as an endless parade of ghoulish priests were shielded as they defiled vulnerable kids in their care. Pope Benedict XVI's Vatican was determined to rein in American nuns inspired by Vatican II, accusing them of pushing "radical feminist themes" and caring for the sick instead of parroted church teaching opposing contraception, gay relationships and the ordination of women. Although some conservative American bishops have politicized the abortion issue, punishing liberal pols who were pro-choice, they were furious that some uppity nuns supported the president's health care plan, including his compromise on contraception for religious hospitals. On Monday, we learned that German Cardinal Gerhard Müller, the Vatican orthodoxy watchdog, upbraided the officers of the largest group of American nuns, the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, which has been investigated and reprimanded by Rome. He

objected to their plan to honor Sister Elizabeth Johnson, a Fordham theology professor who has written that women are uncomfortable with "the dominant images of God as father, lord, and king" and would prefer "non-authoritarian" female language for God.

Last year Francis said he would let the Vatican's coercive reform of the nuns' group continue. And this past week, he was silent after Müller's mauling of the nuns.

The odd thing, as his biographer Paul Vallely told me, is, "He basically agrees with the nuns."

The new pope's focus on the poor and social justice, his "Who am I to judge?" cri de coeur on gays, his critique that the church has become too "obsessed" with abortion, gay marriage and contraception - all these shocking and refreshing moves echo the gospel-infused spirit for which the nuns are being punished.

"This latest slapdown raises a big question about Pope Francis' character," said Kenneth Briggs, the author of "Double Crossed: Uncovering the Catholic Church's Betrayal of American Nuns." "Is he content projecting a Mr. Nice Guy image while giving the green light to the Vatican big boys to pursue a hard line? Is he the butterfly who delights everybody, or is he also the strong arm?"

Although the 77-year-old pope has said that women could gain greater power in the church, other comments have been typically atavistic. While praising women for their "sensitivity," "intuition" and mothering skills, he said flatly that women's ordination to the priesthood "is not a question open to discussion."

The pope has admitted that as Jorge Mario Bergoglio, head of the Jesuits in Argentina, he did not do enough to fight the Dirty War. Bergoglio helped some people privately but did not come to grips publicly with the murderous junta.

"It was a sin of omission," Briggs said. "He apparently didn't have the gumption to go to that next step. It parallels what has hap-

pened with the nuns."

Two of his priests, vocal advocates of the poor who worked in the slums, were captured and viciously tortured by the junta. One wrote a book claiming that Bergoglio had informed on them to the military, a claim the pope denies.

In his book "Pope Francis: Untying the Knots," Vallely writes that Bergoglio later realized he "should have seen the danger in which he was placing his two priests" and "has been trying to atone for his behavior ever since."

In Rolling Stone, Mark Binelli said that Pope Francis's charm masks "authoritarian steel."

Vallely told me that the pope is "intent on sending ambiguous signals in certain areas."

He did not contradict Müller "because that would be sending out a liberal message rather than an inclusive message," the biographer said. But in June, the pope reportedly told a group of nuns and priests from Latin America not to worry if they heard from the orthodoxy enforcers because "this will pass!"

Vallely said the pope was allowing the liberal German Cardinal Walter Kasper to make speeches on changing the rules to allow divorced Catholics to take Communion at the same time he's allowing conservatives to oppose the same thing. He chose a liberal pope for sainthood to balance the conservative, pedophile-shielding pope.

"The thing he really hates is the way the papacy used to work like a medieval monarchy," Vallely said. "He wants the church to reach decisions slowly, by conversations within the church. He wants to hear all the different voices. He's letting a thousand flowers bloom."

Or not. Women, gays and dissident Catholics who had fresh hope are going to have to face the reality that while this pope is a huge improvement on the last, the intolerance is still there.

We are still going to be discriminated against, but with a smile instead of a frown.

Maybe a frown is more honest. □

The Sizzle Sells the Cast-Iron Steak

JULIA MOSKIN

© 2014 New York Times

First, meat started showing up on every list of foods to avoid, whether for reasons of health, ethics, economics or ecology.

Then, the grill jockeys who blossom in American backyards in the springtime made steak seem impossible in an ordinary kitchen; at a minimum, hot and medium-hot cooking areas, a dry rub and a spray bottle were required. So I never slowed to ogle the steak case until I started cooking for a fish-phobic family. The meat aisle seemed to narrow daily. Chicken gets boring quickly; pork is dry; ground beef grows depressing; veal is for the 1 percent.

I started tinkering with steak on the stovetop. I had a cast-iron skillet and a memory of my mother sprinkling coarse salt into the pan, rather than on the meat. I'd heard rumors of a new method, a departure from the received wisdom that said to put the steak in the pan and leave it alone. After some grisly catastrophes, trying out different cuts, seasonings and heat levels, I had a rock-solid new system.

It turns out that you truly don't need a grill to cook a great steak: savory, salty, encased in a barklike crust. You don't need to marinate or dry-rub. You don't have to know your way around a beef-cut chart - with its bewildering eyes, rounds, chucks and clods - to buy a good one. And at dinner time, laying a few slices of steak next to the whole grains, the roasted vegetables and the leafy greens that (usually) fill most of our plates is an excellent strategy.

The preparations are simple. Buy from a butcher, or directly from a producer, whose meat comes from cattle raised in a way that you feel comfortable with. Choose boneless cuts that are thinner (at one inch thick, they cook through evenly on top of the stove), dry them well (to maximize crust) then sear them in an insanely hot pan. Salt the pan instead of the meat, and turn over the steak every 30 seconds or so after the first minute of cooking.

If you don't have a cast-iron skillet, now is the time: nothing that gets as hot is also nonstick, and nothing else that is nonstick gets as hot.

There is a long list of cuts that do just fine on the stovetop.

Boneless New York or Kansas City strip, flat iron, chuck-eye and boneless rib-eye are fine-grained and tender. Outliers with long muscle fibers - cuts like skirt, flank and hanger - are less expensive and more flavorful. They are naturally chewy but can be tender when cooked rare and sliced across the grain. LaFrieda's favorite cut for home cooking, and now mine, is the "outside" skirt, a cut that's thicker than the flat "inside" skirt. "I wouldn't want to call it 'livery,'" he said. "From me that's a compliment, but some

more paper towels, turning occasionally. Do not worry about "losing" the juices; a dry surface helps build that strong crust.

Fifteen minutes before dinner, turn the heat on high under your skillet and sprinkle its surface with salt. Do not oil the pan. When you think it's hot, let it heat some more. If it's not smoking, it's not ready.

When the heat and the suspense become unbearable, lay your steak in the pan and prepare to flip. As you flip, move it around in the pan so it absorbs the

from that of a medium-rare one.

And if all else fails, remember this: "You're not cooking in a restaurant," Schatz said. "You can always just cut the thing in half and see what's going on."

CAST-IRON STEAK

Time: About 1 hour

Yield: 4 to 6 servings, with leftovers

Coarse salt, such as kosher salt or Maldon sea salt

1 or 2 boneless beef steaks, 1 inch thick (about 2 pounds total), such as strip, rib-eye, flat iron, chuck-eye, hanger

5 to 8 minutes, pat steak dry again and place in pan. (If using two steaks, cook in two batches.)

4. Let steak sizzle for 1 minute, then use tongs to flip it over, moving raw side of steak around in pan so both sides are salted. Press down gently to ensure even contact between steak and pan. Keep cooking over very high heat, flipping steak every 30 seconds. After it's been turned a few times, sprinkle in two pinches salt. If using pepper, add it now.

5. When steak has contracted in size and developed a dark-



The final product, which should have a delicious crust with a juicy and pink interior, in New York, May 8, 2014. You truly don't need a grill to cook a great steak: savory, salty, encased in a bark-like crust, and you don't need to marinate or dry-rub, or know your way around a beef cut chart to buy a good one.

(Andrew Scrivani/The New York Times)

people want their meat very mild."

For stronger-tasting cuts, a wedge of lemon alongside the steak can do wonders. "It won't do a lot for filet mignon," the chef Michael Psilakis said. "But for anything well marbled, anything with some age on it, the acid in the lemon juice just brightens up the taste." Around the Mediterranean, meat is rarely served without lemon. After you have bought your steaks, keep them refrigerated until 30 minutes to an hour before cooking. (When they hit the pan, they should be cool, not cold.) Pat them dry with paper towels, then set aside on

salt. If you like black pepper (I do), add it only when the steak is almost cooked. It burns easily.

The total cooking time for a one-inch-thick steak is four to five minutes. The most accurate way to test it is with an instant-read thermometer. Insert it into the side of the steak, not through the top. The temperature will rise significantly after cooking, so 120 to 125 degrees is the range for medium-rare meat. For those who don't want to fiddle around with microtechnology when getting dinner on the table, fingers provide the best intel. The feel of a rare steak quickly becomes different

or skirt (preferably "outside" skirt)

Black pepper (optional)

1. Remove packaging and pat meat dry with paper towels. Line a plate with paper towels, place meat on top and set aside to dry further and come to cool room temperature (30 to 60 minutes, depending on the weather). Turn occasionally; replace paper towels as needed.

2. Place a heavy skillet, preferably cast-iron, on the stove and sprinkle lightly but evenly with about 1/4 teaspoon salt. Turn heat to high under pan. Pat both sides of steak dry again.

3. When pan is smoking hot,

brown crust, about 4 minutes total, check for doneness. To the touch, meat should feel softly springy but not squishy. If using an instant-read thermometer, insert into side of steak. For medium-rare meat, 120 to 125 degrees is ideal: Steak will continue cooking after being removed from heat.

6. Remove steak to a cutting board and tent lightly with foil. Let rest 5 minutes.

7. Serve in pieces or thickly slice on the diagonal, cutting away from your body and with the top edge of the knife leaning toward your body. If cooking skirt or hanger steak, make sure to slice across the grain of the meat. □